BLM LIBRARY
88026518

PRELIMINARY
WILDERNESS RECOMMENDATIONS

# BENTON-OWENS VALLEY
# BODIE - COLEVILLE
# STUDY AREAS

DRAFT
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
CALIFORNIA

QH
76.5
.C2
B463
1983

# United States Department of the Interior

**BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**
800 Truxtun Avenue, Room 302
Bakersfield, California 93301
Phone: (805) 861-4191
Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. weekdays

IN REPLY
REFER TO:

AUG 11 1983

Dear Reviewer:

Enclosed for your review and comment is the draft environmental impact statement prepared on Wilderness recommendations in the Caliente and Bishop Resource Areas of the Bakersfield District, California, and the Walker Resource Area, Carson City District, Nevada.

The statement was prepared pursuant to Section 102 (2) (c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. It is based on information from the Bureau of Land Management and other sources, including Federal, State, and local agencies, and interested private organizations and citizens.

Comments on the environmental statement should be received by this office no later than in order to be included in the Final Environmental Impact Statement and process. Your comments should be returned to: Robert D. Rheiner, Jr. District Manager, Bakersfield District, 800 Truxtun Avenue, Room 302, Bakersfield, California 93301.

Sincerely,

Robert D. Rheiner, Jr.
District Manager

Enclosure

ID88026518

BLM CA ES 83 013 8500

QH
76.5
.C2
B463
1983

BLM Library
D-553A, Building 50
Denver Federal Center
P. O. Box 25047
Denver, CO 80225-0047

Department of the Interior

Draft Environmental Impact Statement

# Wilderness Recommendations

for the

# Benton-Owens Valley/Bodie-Coleville Study Areas

Bakersfield District, California

Carson City District, Nevada

Prepared by

Bureau of Land Management

Department of the Interior

Bureau of Land Management
Library
Bldg. 50, Denver Federal Center
Denver, CO 80225

Ed Hastey
California State Director

8/12/83
Date

COVER SHEET

(X) Draft ( ) Final Environmental Statement

U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, Bakersfield District, California

1) Type of Action ( ) Administrative (X) Legislative

2) The EIS area is generally located east of the Sierra Nevada and south of Lake Tahoe. It encompasses 290,216 acres of public land. An additional 8,510 acres of uninventoried Forest Service land are included within the EIS area as a result of the joint wilderness study program between the BLM and the U.S. Forest Service. The Bureau of Land Management proposes to recommend 53,089 acres suitable and 245,637 acres nonsuitable for wilderness designation.

The proposed action recommends wilderness designation, for Congressional action, on portions of the following Wilderness Study Areas (WSAs): Sacatar Meadows, Cerro Gordo, and Southern Inyo.

Areas recommended as nonsuitable include: Independence Creek, Crater Mountain, Symmes Creek, Chidago Canyon, Fish Slough, Volcanic Tableland, Casa Diablo, Excelsior, Granite Mountains, Walford Springs, Mormon Meadows, Mt. Biedeman, Bodie Mountains, Bodie, Masonic Mountains, Slinkard, and portions of Sacatar Meadows, Cerro Gordo, and Southern Inyo.

3) Summary of Environmental Impacts:

The designation of a WSA as a wilderness area will establish protection of wilderness resources as that area's dominant objective. This will generally result in reduced soil erosion, increased game and hunting success, and a greater opportunity for solitude and primitive recreation. Sensitive plants and wildlife, cultural resources, and Native American values will receive added protection. Grazing operations and mineral entry and mining in existence at the time of designation will continue. Vegetative manipulations, introduction of exotic plants and animals, and developed recreation activities will generally be precluded.

An area not designated as wilderness will allow a broader utilization of resources. Intensive uses prohibited in a wilderness area will be allowed. However, wilderness qualities may be impaired to a degree that future designation will be precluded.

4) Alternatives Considered:

i) Proposed Action
ii) All Wilderness
iii) Partial Wilderness
iv) No Wilderness (No Action)

5) Final date for comments:

6) Further information may be obtained from: Jerry Magee, EIS Team Leader, Bakersfield District, 800 Truxtun Avenue, Room 302, Bakersfield, California 93301.

# Summary

## SUMMARY

This EIS examines four alternatives:

1. Proposed Action -- Suitable: 53,089 acres; Nonsuitable: 245,637 acres
2. All Wilderness -- Suitable: 298,726 acres; Nonsuitable: 0 acres
3. Partial Wilderness -- Suitable: 158,219 acres; Nonsuitable: 140,507 acres
4. No Wilderness (No Action) -- Suitable: 0 acres; Nonsuitable: 298,726 acres

Dealing with five issues:

1. Wilderness
2. Recreation
3. Vegetative Resource Use
4. Land Use
5. Minerals/Energy

Concerning Nineteen Wilderness Study Areas:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Sacatar Meadows (CA-010-027) | 18,175 acres |
| 2. | Cerro Gordo (CA-010-055) | 16,102 acres |
| 3. | Southern Inyo (CA-010-056) | 36,600 acres |
| 4. | Independence Creek (CA-010-057) | 6,250 acres |
| 5. | Crater Mountain (CA-010-062) | 7,260 acres[1] |
| 6. | Symmes Creek (CA-010-064) | 8,130 acres[1] |
| 7. | Chidago Canyon (CA-010-079) | 20,246 acres |
| 8. | Fish Slough (CA-010-080) | 14,450 acres |
| 9. | Volcanic Tableland (CA-010-081) | 11,840 acres |
| 10. | Casa Diablo (CA-010-082) | 9,167 acres[1] |
| 11. | Excelsior (CA-010-088) | 9,100 acres |
| 12. | Granite Mountains (CA-010-090) | 56,741 acres[1] |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 13. | Walford Springs (CA-010-092) | 13,200 acres |
| 14. | Mormon Meadows (CA-010-094) | 7,280 acres |
| 15. | Mt. Biedeman (CA-010-095) | 12,420 acres |
| 16. | Bodie Mountains (CA-010-099) | 23,360 acres |
| 17. | Bodie (CA-010-100) | 15,455 acres |
| 18. | Masonic Mountains (CA-010-102) | 6,600 acres |
| 19. | Slinkard (CA-010-105/NV-030-531)[2] | 6,350 acres |
| | Total Acreage | 298,726 acres |

[1] Acreage includes adjacent, uninventoried Inyo National Forest administered lands under study in accordance with the February 20, 1981, USFS/BLM Cooperative Agreement for joint wilderness studies.

[2] Area under joint wilderness study between Carson City District, Nevada, and Bakersfield District, California, with Bakersfield District lead. The lands administered by the Carson City District (2,830 acres) are entirely within California.

| Wilderness Study Areas | Recommendations (Acres) | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Proposed Action | | All Wilderness | | Partial Wilderness | | No Wilderness | |
| | Suitable | Nonsuitable | Suitable | Nonsuitable | Suitable | Nonsuitable | Suitable | Nonsuitable |
| Sacatar Meadows | 11,447 | 6,728 | 18,175 | 0 | 15,060 | 3,115 | 0 | 18,175 |
| Cerro Gordo | 14,222 | 1,880 | 16,102 | 0 | 14,222 | 1,880 | 0 | 16,102 |
| Southern Inyo | 27,420 | 9.180 | 36,600 | 0 | 27,420 | 9,180 | 0 | 36,600 |
| Independence Creek | 0 | 6,250 | 6,250 | 0 | 0 | 6,250 | 0 | 6,250 |
| Crater Mountain | 0 | 7,260 | 7,260 | 0 | 6,165 | 1,095 | 0 | 7,260 |
| Symmes Creek | 0 | 8,130 | 8,130 | 0 | 0 | 8,130 | 0 | 8,130 |
| Chidago Canyon | 0 | 20,246 | 20,246 | 0 | 8,326 | 11,920 | 0 | 20,246 |
| Fish Slough | 0 | 14,450 | 14,450 | 0 | 14,090 | 360 | 0 | 14,450 |
| Volcanic Tableland | 0 | 11,840 | 11,840 | 0 | 10,920 | 920 | 0 | 11,840 |
| Casa Diablo | 0 | 9,167 | 9,167 | 0 | 0 | 9,167 | 0 | 9,167 |
| Excelsior | 0 | 9,100 | 9,100 | 0 | 0 | 9,100 | 0 | 9,100 |
| Granite Mountains | 0 | 56,741 | 56,741 | 0 | 35,981 | 20,760 | 0 | 56,741 |
| Walford Springs | 0 | 13,200 | 13,200 | 0 | 0 | 13,200 | 0 | 13,200 |
| Mormon Meadows | 0 | 7,280 | 7,280 | 0 | 0 | 7,280 | 0 | 7,280 |
| Mt. Biedeman | 0 | 12,420 | 12,420 | 0 | 9,300 | 3,120 | 0 | 12,420 |
| Bodie Mountains | 0 | 23,360 | 23,360 | 0 | 9,970 | 13,570 | 0 | 23,360 |
| Bodie | 0 | 15,455 | 15,455 | 0 | 6,945 | 8,510 | 0 | 15,455 |
| Masonic Mountains | 0 | 6,600 | 6,600 | 0 | 0 | 6,600 | 0 | 6,600 |
| Slinkard | 0 | 6,350 | 6,350 | 0 | 0 | 6,350 | 0 | 6,350 |
| Totals | 53,089 | 245,637 | 298,726 | 0 | 158,219 | 140,507 | 0 | 298,726 |

## PROPOSED ACTION

Suitable
- Sacatar Meadows (portion)
- Cerro Gordo (portion)
- Southern Inyo (portion)

Total: 53,089 acres

Nonsuitable
- Sacatar Meadows (portion)
- Cerro Gordo (portion)
- Southern Inyo (portion)
- Independence Creek
- Crater Mountain
- Symmes Creek
- Chidago Canyon
- Fish Slough
- Volcanic Tableland
- Casa Diablo
- Excelsior
- Granite Mountains
- Walford Springs
- Mormon Meadows
- Mt. Biedeman
- Bodie Mountains
- Bodie
- Masonic Mountains
- Silnkard

Total: 245,637 acres

ITS IMPACTS

Wilderness
Effective Wilderness Manageability

Recreation
Closed to vehicle access on 53,089 acres.

Vegetative Resource Use
Vehicle use constrained on 53,089 acres.

Some loss of increased forage production.

Harvest of forest products restricted.

Land Uses
No acquisitions proposed.

Mineral Exploration/Development
Limited after Dec. 31, 1983 on 53,089 acres.

Some geothermal development precluded.

## ALL WILDERNESS

Suitable
- Sacatar Meadows
- Cerro Gordo
- Southern Inyo
- Independence Creek
- Crater Mountain
- Symmes Creek
- Chidago Canyon
- Fish Slough
- Volcanic Tableland
- Casa Diablo
- Excelsior
- Granite Mountains
- Walford Springs
- Mormon Meadows
- Mt. Biedeman
- Bodie Mountains
- Bodie
- Masonic Mountains
- Silnkard

Total: 298,726 acres

Nonsuitable
- None

ITS IMPACTS

Wilderness
Manageability extremely difficult

Recreation
Closed to vehicle access.

Vegetative Resource Use
Vehicle use constrained.

Loss of increased forage production.

Harvest of forest products restricted.

Land Uses
Acquisition of 4,160 acres.

Intensive land uses in Masonic Mountains prohibited.

Mineral Exploration/Development
Limited after Dec. 31, 1983.

Geothermal development precluded.

## PARTIAL WILDERNESS

Suitable
- Sacatar Meadows (portion)
- Cerro Gordo (portion)
- Southern Inyo (portion)
- Crater Mountain (central & southern portion)
- Chidago Canyon (south ½)
- Fish Slough (portion)
- Volcanic Tableland (portion east of utility corridor)
- Granite Mountains (east ½)
- Mt. Biedeman (central portion)
- Bodie Mountains (southeast portion)
- Bodie (south ½)

Total: 158,219 acres

Nonsuitable
- Sacatar Meadows (portion)
- Cerro Gordo (portion)
- Southern Inyo (portion)
- Independence Creek
- Crater Mountain (except central and southern portion)
- Symmes Creek
- Chidago Canyon (north ½)
- Fish Slough (portion)
- Volcanic Tableland (portion)
- Casa Diablo
- Excelsior
- Granite Mountains (west ½)
- Walford Springs
- Mormon Meadows
- Mt. Biedeman (northeast & southern portion)
- Bodie Mountains (except southeast portion)
- Bodie (north ½)
- Masonic Mountains
- Silnkard

Total: 140,507 acres

ITS IMPACTS

Wilderness
Some manageability problems and resource conflicts.

Recreation
Closed to vehicle access on 158,219 acres

Vegetative Resource Use
Vehicle use constrained on 158,219 acres.

Some loss of increased forage production.

Harvest of forest products restricted.

Land Uses
Acquisition of 1,340 acres.

Mineral Exploration/Development
Limited after Dec. 31, 1983 on 158,219 acres.

Some geothermal development precluded.

## NO WILDERNESS

Suitable
- None

Nonsuitable
- Sacatar Meadows
- Cerro Gordo
- Southern Inyo
- Independence Creek
- Crater Mountain
- Symmes Creek
- Chidago Canyon
- Fish Slough
- Volcanic Tableland
- Casa Diablo
- Excelsior
- Granite Mountains
- Walford Springs
- Mormon Meadows
- Mt. Biedeman
- Bodie Mountains
- Bodie
- Masonic Mountains
- Silnkard

Total: 298,726 acres

ITS IMPACTS

Wilderness
Potential loss of wilderness values.

Recreation
No impact

Vegetative Resource Use
No change.

Land Uses
No acquisitions proposed.

Mineral Exploration/Devel
No impact.

# Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS


| | Page |
|---|---|
| SUMMARY | i |
| TABLE OF CONTENTS | v |
| LIST OF MAPS | vi |
| CHAPTER 1 - Introduction | |
| Location | 1-1 |
| Purpose and Need | 1-1 |
| Planning Process | 1-1 |
| Significant Issues | 1-1 |
| Wilderness Study Process | 1-2 |
| CHAPTER 2 - Alternatives | |
| Formulation of Alternatives | 2-1 |
| Description of Alternatives | |
| Alternative I -- Proposed Action | 2-1 |
| Alternative II -- All Wilderness | 2-9 |
| Alternative III -- Partial Wilderness | 2-10 |
| Alternative IV -- No Wilderness | 2-16 |
| Alternatives Considered but Rejected | 2-17 |
| Implications of Wilderness Designation | 2-17 |
| Affects of the Alternatives (Cumulative Impacts) | 2-19 |
| CHAPTER 3 - Affected Environment | |
| Data Base | 3-1 |
| General | 3-1 |
| Wilderness Planning Criteria Matrix | 3-4 |
| Sacatar Meadows | 3-8 |
| Cerro Gordo | 3-9 |
| Southern Inyo | 3-10 |
| Independence Creek | 3-11 |
| Crater Mountain | 3-12 |
| Symmes Creek | 3-13 |
| Chidago Canyon | 3-14 |
| Fish Slough | 3-15 |
| Volcanic Tableland | 3-16 |
| Casa Diablo | 3-17 |
| Excelsior | 3-18 |
| Granite Mountains | 3-19 |
| Walford Springs | 3-21 |
| Mormon Meadows | 3-22 |
| Mt. Biedeman | 3-23 |
| Bodie Mountains | 3-24 |
| Bodie | 3-25 |
| Masonic Mountains | 3-26 |
| Slinkard | 3-27 |

TABLE OF CONTENTS (cont.)


| | Page |
|---|---|
| CHAPTER 4 - Environmental Consequences | |
| Introduction | 4-1 |
| Alternative I -- Proposed Action | 4-2 |
| Alternative II -- All Wilderness | 4-27 |
| Alternative III -- Partial Wilderness | 4-52 |
| Alternative IV -- No Wilderness | 4-70 |
| Mitigation | 4-73 |
| Unavoidable Adverse Impacts | 4-73 |
| Relationship Between Short-Term Use and Long-Term Productivity | 4-74 |
| Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitments of Resources | 4-74 |
| CHAPTER 5 - Consultation and Coordination | |
| Review of the Draft EIS | 5-1 |
| LIST OF PREPARERS | LP-1 |
| GLOSSARY | G-1 |
| LITERATURE CITED | LC-1 |


LIST OF MAPS


| Map No. | Map Title | Page |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Regional Location | 1-5 |
| 2 | Alternative I | 2-20 |
| 3 | Alternative III | 2-21 |

# Chapter 1

# Introduction

# CHAPTER I

# INTRODUCTION

## LOCATION

The Bureau of Land Management is currently studying 290,216 acres of Public Land and 8,510 acres of uninventoried Forest Service administered lands in the Benton-Owens Valley/Bodie-Coleville Study Area for potential wilderness designation. Public Lands in the study area are administered by the Caliente and Bishop Resource Area offices, Bakersfield District, BLM, and the Walker Resource Area office, Carson City District, BLM. The Inyo National Forest administers the Forest Service portions of the joint wilderness study areas. Map 1-1 shows the relative locations of the areas under study.

## PURPOSE AND NEED

The purpose of this action is to determine whether or not each of the nineteen wilderness study areas (WSAs) within the study area should be designated as suitable for inclusion within the National Wilderness Preservation System. This evolves from a need expressed by Congress in the Wilderness Act of 1964 to inventory all roadless areas under public ownership possessing wilderness qualities to "secure for the American people...the benefits of an enduring resource of wilderness."

## PLANNING PROCESS

BLM wilderness studies are conducted within the framework of the Bureau Planning System. The wilderness suitability and nonsuitability recommendations analyzed by this EIS were developed through the Management Framework Plan (MFP) Amendment process. Through this process, the existing MFPs covering the areas under study are being amended to allow consideration of new data and new Bureau Policy. New data, including wilderness resource data, was not available, and the BLM Wilderness Study and Management Policies were not in effect, at the time the original MFPs were initiated. The plan amendments conducted for this wilderness study effort involve the Benton-Owens Valley, Bodie-Coleville, South Sierra Foothills, and Reno Planning Areas.

## SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

A. Wilderness:

There is some support to manage individual WSAs or portions thereof as wilderness, as well as some opposition to any of these WSAs being managed as wilderness. Primary opposition is to the anticipated restrictions to resource use, i.e., all forms of mineral/energy exploration and development, development and maintenance of range and/or wildlife projects in WSAs, that may result. Supporters believe wilderness designation would protect the WSA's natural values as well as supplemental values, such as cultural resources, sensitive plant and animal species, and others.

B. Recreation:

Wilderness designation would be restrictive to certain types of recreational utilization of public land, such as vehicular access and recreational facilities development.

C. Vegetative Resource Use:

Wilderness designation would restrict or limit maintenance and/or development of some new projects for range, wildlife habitat, and watershed improvements, and limit the ability to increase forage allocation. Other restrictions to vegetative resource uses resulting from wilderness designation would include curtailment of harvesting of fuel wood and other vegetative products.

D. Land Use:

Wilderness designation would prohibit and/or limit certain types of intensive land uses such as sanitary land fills, roads, utility right-of-ways, etc. It would also limit water diversion facilities and management opportunities.

E. Minerals/Energy:

Wilderness designation would prohibit or limit minerals and energy exploration and development opportunities. This includes geothermal resource development, mining of locatable and saleable mineral resources, etc. According to current law, no new mining claims or mineral leases would be allowed in designated wilderness after December 31, 1983.

WILDERNESS STUDY PROCESS

The BLM identified wilderness study areas (WSAs) in the Benton-Owens Valley/Bodie-Coleville Study Area during the California Statewide Wilderness Inventory. The inventory process and the WSAs are described in Wilderness: Final Intensive Inventory, Public Lands Administered by BLM California Outside the California Desert Conservation Area (1979). Each WSA was evaluated as part of the overall planning for the area. The following nineteen WSAs were identified:

Sacatar Meadows (CA-010-027).....18,175 acres
Cerro Gordo (CA-010-055).....16,102 acres
Southern Inyo (CA-010-056).....36,600 acres
Independence Creek (CA-010-057)..... 6,250 acres[1]
Crater Mountain (CA-010-062)..... 7,260 acres[1]
Symmes Creek (CA-010-064)..... 8,130 acres[1]
Chidago Canyon (CA-010-079).....20,246 acres
Fish Slough (CA-010-080).....14,450 acres
Volcanic Tableland (CA-010-081).....11,840 acres[1]
Casa Diablo (CA-010-082)..... 9,167 acres[1]
Excelsior (CA-010-088)..... 9,100 acres[1]
Granite Mountains (CA-010-090).....56,741 acres[1]
Walford Spring (CA-010-092).....13,200 acres
Mormon Meadows (CA-010-094)..... 7,280 acres

| | |
|---|---|
| Mt. Biedeman (CA-010-095) | 12,420 acres |
| Bodie Mountains (CA-010-099) | 23,360 acres |
| Bodie (CA-010-100) | 15,455 acres |
| Masonic Mountains (CA-010-102) | 6,600 acres |
| Slinkard (CA-010-105/NV-030-531)[2] | 6,350 acres |
| Total | 298,726 acres |

The next step in the process was to develop alternative options for managing the WSAs. Each alternative has different objectives. For example, Alternative II (All Wilderness) places primary priority on preservation and secondary emphasis on other uses, whereas the objectives for Alternative IV (No Wilderness) place primary emphasis on other multiple uses and development. Each alternative consists of a different mix of suitability recommendations.

The wilderness planning criteria and the quality standards outlined in the Bureau Wilderness Study Policy, published in the Federal Register on February 3, 1982, were used for determining suitability. Table 3-1 in Chapter 3 summarizes the results of applying the criteria to each WSA. The quality standards are primarily met through the planning and EIS process. The significance column of Table 4-1 in Chapter 4 addresses specific quality standards where significant.

To date, the process for recommending an area as suitable has occurred in three phases. Phase 1 determined issues that should be addressed. Issues were identified both internally and through input from interested citizens, who responded to the Federal Register notices, representing a broad spectrum of resource interest. Wilderness suitability was one of the issues identified for resolution through the planning process. Phase 2 consisted of an analysis of the management situation in the areas under study by interdisciplinary teams in each Resource Area, utilizing all relevant resource information and other data as well as all public input to date. In phase 3, the interdisciplinary teams formulated management alternatives for each WSA, assessed the impacts of each alternative, and developed a proposed action from the alternatives. The impacts of the proposed action and alternatives are assessed in this draft Environmental Impact Statement.

Following public review of the draft EIS, which includes a public hearing, a fourth phase will begin during which the public comments are utilized to develop a preliminary final EIS. The preliminary FEIS will undergo administrative review before being finalized by the Secretary of Interior.

[1]Acreage includes adjacent, uninventoried Inyo National Forest administered lands under study in accordance with the February 20, 1981, USFS/BLM Cooperative Agreement for joint wilderness studies.

[2]Area under joint wilderness study between Carson City District, Nevada, and Bakersfield District, California, with Bakersfield District lead. The lands administered by the Carson City District are entirely within California.

Both FLPMA and the Wilderness Act establish a process by which the Bureau of Land Management sends its recommendations to the Secretary of the Interior, who sends his recommendations to the President, who then sends his recommendations to Congress for final action. Only Congress can designate an area as wilderness.

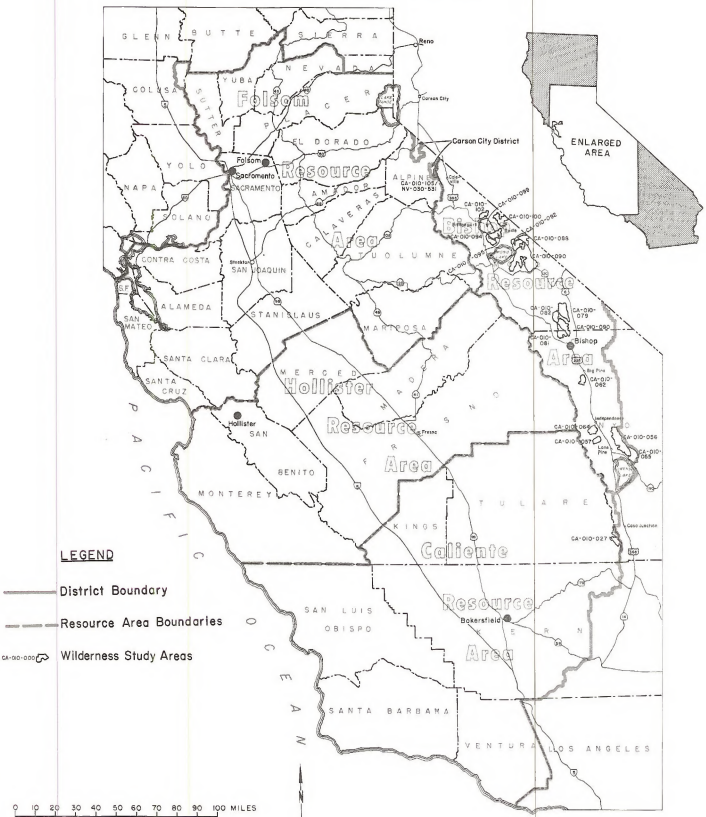
One requirement that must be met before the Secretary of the Interior can send his recommendations to the President involves mineral surveys of areas recommended as "suitable" for wilderness designation. FLPMA requires that "prior to any recommendations for the designation of an area as wilderness, the Secretary shall cause mineral surveys to be conducted by the Geological Survey and the Bureau of Mines to determine the mineral values, if any, that may be present in such areas." Until these mineral surveys are completed and analyzed, the suitable recommendations must be considered as preliminary recommendations.

A report is prepared for each wilderness study area. The report will include a summary of recommendations, the EIS, the results of the USGS/BM/BLM mineral surveys, transcripts of public hearings, and comments received. The report, as required by the Wilderness Act of 1964, is transmitted first to the Secretary of the Interior and then to the President. These requirements are met as soon as possible after publication of the final EIS, and must in any case be met by no later than October 21, 1991. Within two years of the receipt of the report from the Secretary, the President must advise Congress of his recommendations with respect to designation as wilderness of each WSA, together with a map of the area and a definition of its boundaries. Until Congress decides whether or not each WSA will be managed as a wilderness area, each WSA will be managed in accordance with the Bureau's Interim Management Policy and Guidelines for Lands Under Wilderness Review (December 12, 1979).

# Benton-Owens Valley/ Bodie-Coleville
## WILDERNESS ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

# LOCATION MAP

### Bakersfield District




Map 1

# Chapter 2

# Alternatives

# CHAPTER II

# ALTERNATIVES

## FORMULATION OF ALTERNATIVES

As stated earlier, management alternatives for each WSA were formulated by the Resource Area interdisciplinary teams in the third phase of this wilderness study effort. The alternative formulation was guided by the Bureau's Wilderness Study Policy, as well as issues identified in phase 1, specific legislation, Bureau regulations, and other Bureau policy.

The Proposed Action was developed through analysis of all alternatives considered in the planning process. It is considered to be the alternative which best protects the highest quality wilderness values (through wilderness designation) and optimizes wilderness manageability (through elimination of significant manageability problems), while allowing for utilization of moderate to high competing resource values in areas recommended as nonsuitable for wilderness designation.

The Partial Wilderness Alternative places greater weight on areas of moderate to high wilderness values over conflicting resource values. A lower standard for elimination of significant manageability problems, which affect overall wilderness values, is applied under this alternative.

The All Wilderness and No wilderness alternatives represent the outside boundaries in the range of potential wilderness alternatives. The All Wilderness alternative favors total wilderness protection, while non-wilderness resource uses are favored under the No Wilderness alternative.

The No Wilderness and No Action alternatives are essentially identical, since the management prescriptions chosen for each WSA in the absence of wilderness designation followed the current management under existing Management Framework Plans and other pertinent guidance. The two alternatives are, therefore, combined under the heading of "No Wilderness" throughout the remainder of the document.

Certain measures are held in common for all of the alternatives. These measures include protection required for endangered species and cultural resources under the Endangered Species Act, the Antiquities Act, and other pertinent federal legislation.

Protection of soils, watershed, visual resources, air quality, and other natural resources is guided by BLM policy and regulations which are derived from the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA).

## DESCRIPTION OF ALTERNATIVES

### Alternative I -- Proposed Action

Objectives

The objectives for the suitable portions of the Sacatar Meadows, Cerro Gordo, and Southern Inyo Wilderness Study Areas are:

-- To provide a high quality wilderness experience through enhanced manageability and the exclusion of moderate to high competing resource values.

-- To optimize manageability of the wilderness resource through elimination of significant manageability problem areas.
-- To allow livestock grazing and wildlife improvement projects while maintaining wilderness values.
-- To improve consistency of management with the adjacent CDCA suitable wilderness recommendations in Sacatar Meadows and Southern Inyo.
-- To protect the unique Bristlecone pine species and National Register Historic Sites.

The objective for the nonsuitable areas, which include Independence Creek, Crater Mountain, Symmes Creek, Chidago Canyon, Fish Slough, Volcanic Tableland, Casa Diablo, Excelsior, Granite Mountains, Walford Springs, Mormon Meadows, Mt. Biedeman, Bodie Mountains, Bodie, Masonic Mountains, Slinkard, and the nonsuitable portions of Sacatar Meadows, Cerro Cordo, and Southern Inyo WSAs is to manage for utilization of all resources, including those not compatible with wilderness designation.

Description of Alternative

Alternative I recommends that 53,089 acres be designated suitable and 245,637 acres be recommended nonsuitable for wilderness designation (see map 2 series).

Sacatar Meadows (CA-010-027): The majority of the unit is recommended as suitable for wilderness (11,447 acres). Boundary adjustments in the western and southwestern portions of the WSA allow for more practical management as wilderness by eliminating the narrow "fingers" of public land along the western boundary, the private inholding in Section 2, T. 23S., R. 36E., M.D.M., and 4 miles of primitive vehicle routes. By adjusting the western boundary to the ridgeline, manageability is enhanced both through easy identifiability of the boundary and the elimination of outside influences beyond the ridgeline (i.e., Kennedy Meadows Road and other roads and developments around Kennedy Meadows and in the intervening private lands). Since the unit possesses wilderness character only in association with the adjacent CDCA wilderness proposal, the suitable recommendation is contingent upon actual wilderness designation of the adjacent lands. Proposed vegetation manipulation (300 acres) in the suitable area, with the primary purpose of increasing cattle numbers, would be prohibited under Wilderness Management guidelines. Vehicle use for construction and maintenance of wildlife improvement projects under the NCLWMA designation (see below) will be allowed under WMP guidelines when no other means are practical.

The nonsuitable portion of the unit (6,728 acres) will be managed for multiple resources. The current South Sierra Foothills planning effort proposes continuation of grazing use with some use increases resulting from vegetation manipulation in the south central portion of the WSA and along its western edge. Any prescribed burning will have the beneficial side-effect of returning the area to its natural, fire-dependent ecosystem. The area will continue to be managed cooperatively with the California Department of Fish and Game (CDF&G) in accordance with its designation as part of the Monache-Walker Pass National Cooperative Land and Wildlife Management Area (NCLWMA) in January, 1962. Habitat improvement projects (especially water developments) will continue to be jointly developed and maintained for the benefit of upland game species.

Cerro Gordo (CA-010-055): Portions of the WSA (1,880 acres) are recommended nonsuitable for wilderness designation to exclude areas containing high potential for metallic minerals. These areas are located north and east of Swansea. Unpatented mining claims are located throughout the nonsuitable area. The nonsuitable recommendation allows for development of minerals along the western portion of the WSA.

The remainder of the Cerro Gordo WSA (14,222 acres) is recommended suitable for wilderness designation. Metallic minerals range from no to low potential. Geothermal potential is also low. Although uranium potential is moderate, the only known occurrence of the mineral is in the nonsuitable portion of WSA CA-010-056. Portions of the Saline Valley Salt Tram, a National Register Historic Site, are located in this area. Interpretive facilities would, however, be prohibited. Manageability is enhanced by easily recognizable boundary features and the rugged topography which deters accessibility and development. Outstanding views of the Sierra Nevada and the Panamint Range are available from the area.

Southern Inyo (CA-010-056): Portions of the Southern Inyo WSA are recommended as nonsuitable for wilderness designation (9,180 acres) due to manageability problems and resource conflicts. Manageability problems include potential development of patented mining claims and the numerous unpatented mining claims in areas of moderate to high mineral potential (i.e., moderate to high probability for valid existing rights). Geothermal potential is moderate. The western boundary is also not easily identifiable due to a lack of distinguishable natural or cultural features.

The remainder of the Southern Inyo WSA (27,420 acres) is recommended suitable for wilderness designation. Metallic minerals range from no to low potential. Although uranium potential is moderate, the only known occurrence of this mineral is in the nonsuitable portion. A small number of mining claims are located in the suitable area. Geothermal potential is low. Both the Saline Valley Salt Tram and the Pat Keyes trail are located within the suitable area. Interpretive facilities would, however, be prohibited. Vehicular access for construction and maintenance of the proposed wildlife water facility would be allowed. Some sensitive plant species exist in the area as well as Bristlecone Pine. Manageability is enhanced by the extremely rugged topography (which precludes most opportunities for vehicle encroachment and the influences of outside activities), the adjacent CDCA Inyo Mountains WSA (which has been preliminarily recommended as suitable for wilderness), and the adjoining USFS Paiute Wilderness Study Area to the north. The suitable area provides panoramic vistas of the Sierra Nevada, the Panamint Range, Saline Valley, and the Owens Valley.

Independence Creek (CA-010-057): The Independence Creek Wilderness Study Area is recommended as nonsuitable for wilderness designation (6,250 acres). Non-conforming land uses and manageability conflicts preclude effective management as wilderness. These include the existence of a transmission line right-of-way which bisects the unit, a lack of easily identifiable boundary features along the east edge of the unit, a lack of natural barriers to prevent vehicle encroachment into the area, and the existence of some unpatented mining claims in areas of moderate mineral potential (i.e., moderate probability for valid existing rights). In addition, the outside

sights of U.S. Highway 395 and a County Corporation yard adjacent to Manzanar reduce opportunities for a primitive wilderness experience. This unit's manageability problems, outside influences, and general lack of unique characteristics, with respect to diversity in the National Wilderness Preservation System (NWPS) and in the existing nearby wilderness areas, contribute to a low overall wilderness quality. Under this alternative, multiple use management, in addition to the above activities, would allow ORV related recreational use, proposed brush thinning and prescribed burns, and maintenance and/or construction of livestock and watershed facilities, including associated motorized access needs.

Crater Mountain (CA-010-062): The Crater Mountain WSA is recommended nonsuitable for wilderness designation (6,760 acres BLM, 500 acres adjacent, uninventoried USFS lands) due to manageability problems and resource conflicts. These problems and conflicts include the area's moderate geothermal potential, numerous existing mining claims and mill sites, and a power site reserve with valid existing rights. In addition, the unit's rounded, open landform and lack of vegetative screening allow adjacent outside influences to predominate, thus precluding opportunities for primitive experiences. Adjacent influences include the transmission line along the eastern edge, U.S. Highway 395, the Big Pine community, and mining activities. Under this alternative, the area would be managed, in addition to the above activities, for such multiple use activities as construction and/or maintenance of livestock and wildlife facilities, recreation-related ORV use, and intensive research of cultural resources (including excavation).

Symmes Creek (CA-010-064): The Symmes Creek Wilderness Study Area is recommended as nonsuitable for wilderness designation (7,700 acres BLM and 430 acres of adjacent uninventoried USFS land). Non-conforming land uses and manageability conflicts prevent effective management as wilderness. These include the existence of a transmission line right-of-way which transects the eastern third of the unit, a lack of easily identifiable boundary features along the unit's east edge, the existence of power site reserves (valid existing rights), potential access and utilization of non-public land (640 acres), and a lack of natural barriers to screen outside sights and sounds of U.S. Highway 395, Independence, and the County Corporation yard near Manzanar. In addition, some unpatented mining claims are located in areas of moderate mineral potential (i.e. moderate probability for valid existing rights). This unit possesses low overall wilderness values as a result of it's manageability problems, exposure to outside influences, and a general lack of significant or unique features with respect to the region and the NWPS as a whole. Multiple use management would allow, in addition to the above activities, for continued ORV related recreational use; continued fish stocking at Symmes and Shepherd Creeks; apiary site use; proposed brush thinning, fuelwood cutting, and prescribed burns; and maintenance and/or construction of livestock and watershed facilities, including associated motorized access needs.

Chidago Canyon (CA-010-079): The Chidago Canyon Wilderness Study Area is recommended as nonsuitable for wilderness designation (20,246 acres). Resource conflicts consist of moderate potential for metallic minerals and geothermal resources and expansion needs of the boundary transmission line corridor. Manageability problems further inhibit effective wilderness management. These problems include access and utilization of non-public

land (680 acres), a pending aqueduct application with rights to purchase, a preponderance of primitive vehicle routes north of Chidago Canyon, and a lack of natural barriers to prevent vehicle encroachment into the unit. In addition, outside sights of the transmission line on the west boundary edge slightly degrade opportunities for solitude. Aside from the aforementioned activities, multiple use activities that would occur in the unit include historical motorcycle trail use; maintenance and/or construction of wildlife and livestock facilities with associated motor vehicle use needs; livestock-related operational practices such as mineral block placement, water hauling, and motorized access; cultural research activity; and utilization of the expanded (one-half mile wide) transmission line corridor to avert future impacts from development of a new corridor in another location.

Fish Slough (CA-010-080): The WSA is recommended as nonsuitable for wilderness designation (14,450 acres) due to both manageability problems and resource conflicts. Manageability problems include a lack of natural barriers to prevent vehicle encroachment in an area that is surrounded by roads, and currently receives some ORV use; potential utilization of, and vehicle access needs for, the non-public inholding (LADWP); potential development of the existing power site reserve; and the pending aqueduct application by the City of Los Angeles with rights to purchase as provided under Act of Congress (6/23/36). Resource conflicts include the area's moderate geothermal energy potential, expansion needs for the existing utility line corridor (to prevent impacts from development of a new corridor elsewhere), and continued motorized access needs for existing grazing uses (water hauling and sheep herding). Multiple use management of the area would also include construction of a proposed fenceline to improve livestock distribution and potential intensive cultural resources research (including excavation).

Volcanic Tableland (CA-010-081): The WSA is recommended as nonsuitable for wilderness designation (11,840 acres). Nonconforming land uses and conflicting resource values that affect the wilderness recommendation include a lack of natural barriers to prevent motorized vehicle access, especially along the Casa Diablo Road; potential opportunities for geothermal resource development; potential for power site reserve development (valid existing rights) on the WSA's western edge; utilization of the transmission line corridor; and access and potential development of non-public lands which extend into the WSA. In addition, the influence of outside sights and sounds impairs solitude in the WSA. These influences include the west boundary transmission line and the Bishop community. Under this alternative, multiple uses that would be allowed also include ORV recreation related activity, livestock management operations, and associated access.

Casa Diablo (CA-010-082): The Casa Diablo WSA is recommended as nonsuitable for wilderness designation (5,547 acres BLM; 3,620 acres of adjacent, uninventoried USFS land). The recommendation is based on resource conflicts as well as manageability problems. Geothermal resource potential is moderate and there is a moderate potential for metallic minerals. The mining claims in the center of the unit, therefore, potentially possess valid existing rights. In addition, mineral potential for gold and silver is high on Casa Diablo Mountain (located on adjacent USFS land), where numerous mining claims and associated surface disturbances exist. A power site reserve (valid existing rights) is located in the southeastern portion

of the WSA. The utilization of an expanded utility line corridor on the east edge of the unit and some lack of natural barriers to prevent vehicle encroachment contribute to the nonsuitable recommendation. Manageability problems and a lack of unique or significant features contribute to low overall wilderness quality. In addition to the aforementioned activities, multiple use activities that would occur under this alternative are proposed fuelwood harvesting, recreation related ORV use, livestock water hauling requiring use of motorized vehicles, and utilization of the expanded utility corridor to avoid impacts from new developments.

Excelsior (CA-010-088): The WSA is recommended as nonsuitable for wilderness designation (9,100 acres). Potential development of moderate geothermal resources and a lack of natural barriers to prevent vehicle encroachment contribute to this recommendation. A slight impact to solitude occurs from State Highway 167 along the north edge and the transmission line boundary on the east edge of the unit. This unit possesses low overall wilderness quality as a result of its relative lack of significant features or characteristics unique to the region. Multiple uses that would occur also include maintenance and/or construction of livestock facilities with associated motorized access needs, mineral block placement, proposed fuelwood harvesting, and potential development of geothermal resources.

Granite Mountains (CA-010-090): This 56,741 acre unit is recommended nonsuitable for wilderness designation as a result of manageability issues and resource conflicts. Manageability issues include potential development of claims in areas of moderate mineral value; continued vehicular access to existing grazing facilities; potential development of, and access needs for, the two non-public inholdings; the pending application by the City of Los Angeles to purchase 400 acres of public land (right to purchase granted by Act of Congress in June, 1936); expansion needs of the material site within the existing right-of-way; a lack of natural barriers to vehicle encroachment in some areas; and the unit's overall irregular configuration. Primary resource conflicts include the area's moderate to high geothermal potential (the western half is in a KGRA - lease applications are currently pending) and the potential to increase livestock numbers through proposed vegetation manipulation projects and facility developments. Multiple use management of the area would include, in addition to development of geothermal potential and proposed grazing improvements, continued vehicular access on the numerous vehicle routes for hunting and grazing uses, potential harvest of wood products and possible development of sand and gravel deposits in the closed basins.

Walford Springs (CA-010-092): The WSA is recommended as nonsuitable for wilderness designation (13,200 acres). The recommendation is primarily based on conflicting resource values, such as moderate to high potential for geothermal resources (the west third of the unit has been classified a KGRA and contains pending geothermal lease applications) and low overall wilderness values. Manageability problems in the area include an aqueduct application with rights to purchase public land (in the southwest corner of the unit) by the City of Los Angeles and potential access and utilization of non-public land (160 acres). A slight, localized impact from outside sights and sounds would occur near the WSA boundary roads due to lack of screening. This unit possess no feature of significance or characterists unique to the region (or the NWPS as a whole) with which to enhance its low overall wilderness quality. Management of multiple uses in the unit would also

include continuing recreation related ORV use, proposed fuelwood harvesting, mineral block placement for livestock, and maintenance and/or construction of livestock facilities with associated motorized access needs.

Mormon Meadows (CA-010-094): The WSA (7,280 acres) is recommended as nonsuitable due to existing resource conflicts. The area contains high geothermal resource potential (pending geothermal lease applications exist in a small portion of the unit) and mining claims are scattered throughout the unit. Manageability considerations include potential access and utilization of non-public land and a lack of easily identifiable boundary features along some portions of the unit. The location of non-public inholdings within the unit results in a portion of the unit being less than one-half mile in width. Incompatible development of the inholdings would greatly reduce opportunities for solitude and primitive experiences. The manageability problems, combined with a general lack of characteristics unique to the region or the NWPS as a whole, result in low overall wilderness quality in this unit. Management under multiple use would also include harvesting of vegetative products, mineral block placement, hauling of livestock water, and construction and maintenance of proposed spring developments with associated motorized access needs.

Mt. Biedeman (CA-010-095): The WSA (12,420 acres) is recommended nonsuitable. Resource conflicts and manageability problems were the foundation for this recommendation. High metallic mineral potential exists in the northeastern part of the unit which is densely staked with mining claims (i.e., high probability for valid existing rights); the remainder of the unit contains scattered mining claims in areas of low metallic mineral potential. Further, the unit contains moderate to high geothermal resource potential (pending lease applications exist in a small portion of the unit). Manageability concerns include the existence of a telephone line right-of-way with valid existing rights in the north part of the unit, potential utilization and access of non-public lands (80 acres), and a highly irregular, not easily recognizable southern boundary. Multiple use activities in the WSA would also include mineral block placement, hauling of livestock water, maintenance and/or construction of livestock facilities with associated motorized access needs, access for harvesting of vegetative products, snowmobile use, and construction of interpretive facilities associated with Bodie State Historic Park.

Bodie Mountains (CA-010-099): The Bodie Mountain WSA is recommended as nonsuitable for wilderness designation (23,360 acres). Resource conflicts and some manageability problems affected the recommendation for the area. The Cinnabar Canyon area contains mining claims with a high potential for metallic minerals (i.e., high probability for valid existing rights). Mineral exploration activity is occurring in the area. Further, numerous unpatented mining claims are located in the north and southwest portion of the WSA. Geothermal resource potential is considered moderate to high; a substantial portion of the WSA contains pending geothermal lease applications. Manageability problems relate to the existence of approximately 2,120 acres of scattered non-public lands in the WSA as well as cherrystem intrusions which are required for access by livestock operators and miners. A telephone line right-of-way with valid existing rights is also located in the WSA. In addition to the resource uses

mentioned above, multiple use activities that are expected to occur in this WSA include snowmobiling use, mineral block placement, construction and/or maintenance of livestock and wildlife facilities with related motor access needs, and pinyon nut harvesting.

Bodie (CA-010-100): The Bodie WSA is recommended nonsuitable (15,455 acres) due to competing resource demands and manageability conflicts. Numerous metallic mineral claims exist in the Paramount Mine area and western portion of the WSA. The WSA contains primarily moderate and high potential for metallic minerals (i.e., moderate and high probability for valid existing rights of mineral claims in these areas). In addition, mineral exploration activity is presently occurring near Paramount Mine and the Beauty Peak/Dry Lakes Plateau. The WSA contains moderate geothermal resource potential; geothermal lease applications are pending for portions of the WSA. Manageability conflicts include potential access and utilization of non-public land (360 acres), existing cherrystem intrusions which are used for access by miners and livestock operators, and the highly irregular configuration of the WSA. Under this alternative, multiple use activities that would also occur include rockhounding and related access, snowmobiling activity, maintenance and/or construction of livestock facilities and wildlife projects with associated motorized access, mineral block placement, fuelwood harvesting, and construction of interpretive facilities associated with Bodie State Historic Park.

Masonic Mountain (CA-010-102): The WSA is recommended as nonsuitable for wilderness designation (6,600 acres). Resource conflicts, manageability concerns, and a low overall wilderness quality lead to the nonsuitable recommendation. Geothermal resource potential is primarily moderate with high potential in the southwest corner of the WSA; pending geothermal lease applications exist in this southwestern portion. Metallic mineral potential is moderate in the northeast portion of the WSA. Some mining claims are located in the eastern portion of the WSA. And finally, the southwestern portion of the WSA has been recommended for public purposes and expansion of the existing Indian colony. Manageability concerns include potential access and utilization of non-public land (120 acres). The unit possesses no features of significance or characteristics unique to the region with which to enhance its low overall wilderness quality. Under this alternative, other multiple use activities that would occur include snowmobiling use, maintenance and/or construction of range and wildlife projects/facilities, harvesting of fuelwood resources, and pinyon nut harvesting.

Slinkard (CA-010-105/NV-030-531): The unit is recommended nonsuitable for wilderness designation due to overriding manageability problems and some conflicting resource values. The unit's long, narrow (only 1 to 2 miles wide) and irregular shape does not contribute to effective wilderness management. Its ridgelike character renders it highly vulnerable to adjacent outside influences, as well as to potential encroachment of incompatible uses. Its narrow interface (1 mile) and protruding character do not enhance manageability of the adjacent USFS wilderness proposal. In addition, the existence of mining claims in areas of moderate uranium potential limit future wilderness management effectiveness. An overall moderate geothermal resource potential represents a conflicting resource value. Multiple use management of the area would also include continued vehicle access for hunting and some snowmobiling activity, and for proposed wood products and pinyon nut harvesting.

Alternative II -- All Wilderness

Objectives

The objectives for Sacatar Meadows, Cerro Gordo, Southern Inyo, Independence Creek, Crater Mountain, Symmes Creek, Chidago Canyon, Fish Slough, Volcanic Tableland, Casa Diablo, Excelsior, Granite Mountains, Walford Springs, Mormon Meadows, Mt. Biedeman, Bodie Mountains, Bodie, Masonic Mountain, and Slinkard WSAs are to:

-- Maximize wilderness acreage in the EIS area by recommending all wilderness study areas suitable for designation as wilderness.
-- Allow for livestock grazing and wildlife improvement projects while maintaining wilderness values.
-- Give long-term protection to Bristlecone pine, National Register Historic Sites, critical desert watershed areas, crucial wildlife habitat and other sensitive natural values.
-- Improve consistency of management with the adjacent Inyo National Forest proposed John Muir Wilderness Addition in Independence Creek, and the adjacent CDCA suitable wilderness recommendations in Sacatar Meadows and Southern Inyo.
-- Provide wilderness opportunities for wilderness users seeking more solitude than is currently available in the highly used Sierran Wilderness areas and those displaced through quota systems.

Description of Alternative

Alternative II recommends that all WSAs be designated as wilderness, a total of 298,726 acres Federal Land and 4,160 acres of acquired land (see map 2 series for WSA boundaries).

The following acquisitions and/or exchanges are proposed in order to enhance wilderness manageability:

| WSA Name | WSA Number | Acres |
|---|---|---|
| Sacatar Meadows | CA-010-027 | 200 |
| Symmes Creek | CA-010-064 | 640 |
| Volcanic Tableland | CA-010-081 | 640 |
| Mount Biedeman | CA-010-095 | 80 |
| Bodie Mountains | CA-010-099 | 2,120 |
| Bodie | CA-010-100 | 360 |
| Masonic Mountain | CA-010-102 | 120 |

As an adjunct to the suitable recommendations for the Chidago Canyon and Fish Slough WSAs under this alternative, it is further recommended that the strip of volcanic tablelands (5,280 acres) located between them be reviewed as a potential wilderness addition. This strip would enhance the adjacent units' wilderness values by creating a larger, more diverse wilderness complex, although seasonal use of the strip's grazing related boundary roads would continue.

Vehicle use would be allowed for maintenance of range and wildlife improvement projects when no other means are practical, and construction of such projects when wilderness values are benefitted. Management prescriptions under the NCLWMA designation in Sacatar Meadows must meet Wilderness Management Policy Guidelines.

Under BLM wilderness management policy, intensive research of cultural resources, including excavation, may be allowed on a case-by-case basis, with State Director approval, where it has been proposed in the Crater Mountain, Chidago Canyon, and Fish Slough WSAs.

Proposed vegetative manipulations, with the primary purpose of increasing cattle numbers, would be prohibited in the WSAs under wilderness management guidelines. Affected WSAs include Symmes Creek, Independence Creek, Granite Mountains, and Sacatar Meadows.

Any overriding manageability problems involving valid existing rights, such as undeveloped rights-of-way, withdrawals, or mining claims with high probability of incompatible future development, will be handled on a case-by-case basis with a possible option involving "buy out" of the valid existing rights.

Alternative III -- Partial Wilderness

Objectives

The suitable portions of Sacatar Meadows, Cerro Gordo, Southern Inyo, Crater Mountain, Chidago Canyon, Fish Slough, Volcanic Tableland, Granite Mountains, Mt. Biedeman, Bodie Mountains, and Bodie WSAs share the following primary objectives:

-- To provide a wilderness experience through wilderness designation of areas with moderate to high wilderness values with few significant competing resource conflicts.
-- To provide for management of the wilderness resource through elimination of many of the highly significant manageability problems.
-- To allow livestock grazing and wildlife improvement projects while maintaining wilderness values.
-- To improve consistency of management with the adjacent CDCA suitable wilderness recommendations in Sacatar Meadows and Southern Inyo.
-- To give long-term protection to Bristlecone pine, National Register Historic Sites, crucial wildlife habitat, and other sensitive natural values.
-- To provide some wilderness opportunities for users seeking more solitude than is currently available in the highly used Sierran Wilderness Areas and those displaced through quota systems.

The objective for the nonsuitable areas, which include Independence Creek, Symmes Creek, Casa Diablo, Excelsior, Walford Springs, Mormon Meadows, Masonic Mountain, Slinkard and nonsuitable portions of Sacatar Meadows, Cerro Gordo, Southern Inyo, Crater Mountain, Chidago Canyon, Fish Slough, Volcanic Tableland, Granite Mountains, Mt. Biedeman, Bodie Mountains, and Bodie WSAs is to manage for utilization of all resources, including those not compatible with wilderness designation.

Description of Alternative

Alternative III recommends that 158,219 acres be designated suitable and 140,507 acres be designated nonsuitable for wilderness (see map 3 series).

The following acquisitions and/or exchanges are proposed in order to enhance wilderness manageability. Nonpublic parcels not identified are considered to have a lower probability for future, incompatible use and development.

| WSA Name | WSA Number | Acres |
|---|---|---|
| Volcanic Tablelands | CA-010-081 | 640 |
| Bodie Mountain | CA-010-099 | 700 |

Sacatar Meadows (CA-010-027): The majority of the unit is recommended as suitable for wilderness (15,060 acres). Boundary adjustments in the western portion of the WSA, south of Sacatar Canyon, provide some enhancement of manageability in the unit by eliminating the private land in Section 2, T. 23S., R. 36E., M.D.M., portions of the narrow, isolated WSA lands at the western end of the unit, and 3 miles of primitive vehicle routes. By utilizing some natural features in this portion of the unit (ridges and drainages), the boundary becomes more easily identifiable, although some of the "protruding" character remains. The remainder of the western boundary follows less identifiable section lines rather than topographical features. The western edge also remains open to outside influences (see Alternative I) through lack of natural barriers to those influences. Proposed vegetation manipulation in the suitable area (800 acres), with the primary purpose of increasing cattle numbers, would be prohibited under wilderness management guidelines.

The nonsuitable portion of this unit (3,115 acres) will be managed for multiple resource use. Proposed increases in cattle numbers, resulting from vegetation manipulation on 200 acres, would be allowed in this area. Any prescribed burning would have a beneficial side-effect of returning the area to its more natural, fire-dependent ecosystem. The area will continue to be managed cooperatively with CDF&G in accordance with its designation as part of the Monache-Walker Pass NCLWMA in January, 1962. Habitat improvement projects, especially water developments, will continue to be jointly developed and maintained for the benefit of upland game species.

Cerro Gordo (CA-010-055): Same as Alternative I.

Southern Inyo (CA-010-056): Same as Alternative I.

Independence Creek (CA-010-057): Same as Alternative I.

Crater Mountain (CA-010-062): Portions of the Crater Mountain WSA (1,095 acres) are recommended as nonsuitable due to manageability problems. These problems involve a power site reserve with valid existing rights, and numerous existing mining claims and mill sites in the northern and southeastern portions of the WSA.

The remainder of the Crater Mountain WSA (5,665 acres BLM and 500 acres of adjacent USFS land) is recommended suitable for wilderness designation. The area's moderate geothermal potential would be forgone. ORV recreation related use would cease. Vehicle use for maintenance and/or construction of

livestock management facilities and wildlife improvement projects would be allowed when no other means are practical. Proposed intensive research of cultural resources, including potential excavation, would be allowed under WMP guidelines. Management of the area to provide wilderness experiences would be difficult. Although Crater Mountain is a unique and scenic geological feature of the Owens Valley, its rounded, open landform and lack of vegetative screening allow adjacent outside influences to predominate and preclude opportunities for primitive experiences. These influences include the transmission line along the eastern edge, U.S. Highway 395, the Big Pine community, and nearby mining activities.

Symmes Creek (CA-010-064): Same as Alternative I.

Chidago Canyon (CA-010-079): Portions of the WSA (11,920 acres) are considered nonsuitable due to resource and manageability conflicts. These include potential access and utilization of non-public land (680 acres) and a pending aqueduct application with rights to purchase public lands, utilization of the existing transmission line corridor on the WSA's west edge, potential development of moderate geothermal and metallic mineral resources, a lack of natural barriers to prevent vehicle encroachment along the WSA's east boundary, ample availability of primitive vehicle routes north of Chidago Canyon, and historic motorcycle trail use. The preponderance of vehicle routes and manageability problems reduce this area's overall wilderness quality.

The remainder of the WSA (8,326 acres) is recommended suitable for wilderness designation. This portion of the WSA contains en echelon fault scarps which produce topographic variation with some relief. The tablelands landform is relatively unique and scenic. Striking views of the Sierra Nevada, Casa Diablo and White Mountains are available throughout the unit. Metallic mineral and geothermal resource potentials are moderate. However, geothermal resources are abundant outside the WSA. Manageability is limited by some lack of natural barriers to prevent vehicle encroachment into the WSA. Outside sights and sounds of the west boundary transmission line slightly degrade opportunities for primitive experiences. Management of the area would include maintenance and/or construction of livestock management and wildlife facilities and associated vehicle access when no other means are practical. Scientific research associated with cultural resources would be allowed under WMP guidelines. Motorcycle trail use would cease. As an adjunct to the suitable recommendations for this WSA and WSA #CA-010-080, it is further recommended that the strip of volcanic tablelands (5,280 acres) located between them be reviewed as a potential wilderness addition. This strip would enhance the adjacent units' wilderness values by creating a larger, more diverse wilderness complex, although seasonal use of the strip's grazing-related boundary roads would continue.

Fish Slough (CA-010-080): A portion of this WSA is recommended as nonsuitable (360 acres) due to manageability problems and resource conflicts. These consist of an existing aqueduct application with rights to purchase land (approx. 150 acres) by the City of Los Angeles, potential development of a power site reserve (valid existing rights) on the WSA's west edge, and potential utilization of the transmission line utility corridor on the west boundary.

The remaining portion of the Fish Slough WSA (14,090 acres) is recommended suitable. En echelon fault scarps produce topographic variation with some relief. The extensive tablelands landform is unusual and unique to the area. Excellent views of the Eastern Sierra and White Mountains are available. Cultural values complement the area's wilderness values. Geothermal potential is moderate, although geothermal resources are abundant outside the WSA. A 640 acre non-public parcel is located in the unit and slightly hinders manageability due to potential access and utilization needs. A lack of natural barriers invites vehicle encroachment throughout portions of the unit. Vehicle use for maintenance and potential construction (if wilderness values are benefitted) of livestock management facilities and other livestock operations would be allowed, when no other means are practical. Scientific research associated with cultural resources would be allowed under WMP guidelines. ORV recreation related use would cease.

As an adjunct to the suitable recommendations of this WSA and WSA #CA-010-079, it is further recommended that the strip of volcanic tablelands (5,280 acres) located between the two WSAs be reviewed as a potential wilderness addition. This strip would enhance the adjacent units' existing wilderness values by creating a larger, more diverse wilderness complex, although seasonal use of the strip's grazing-related boundary roads would continue.

Volcanic Tableland (CA-010-081): A portion of the Volcanic Tableland WSA (920 acres) is recommended as nonsuitable due to power site reserves (valid existing rights) on the western edge of the unit and the need for utilization of a utility line corridor along the western boundary of the WSA.

The remaining portion of the WSA is recommended as suitable (10,920 acres). The extensive tableland landform of volcanic flats and drainages is unique and unusual to the area. Excellent views from the Eastern Sierra and the White Mountains are available. Geothermal potential is moderate though geothermal resources are abundant outside the WSA. Manageability problems retained in the suitable recommendation include a lack of natural barriers to prevent vehicle encroachment and the influence of outside sights and sounds, such as the Bishop community, the western boundary transmission line, and the potential utilization and access of non-public land in Section 16, T. 6S., R. 32E., M.D.M. (which extends into the WSA). The 640 acre non-public parcel is recommended for acquisition in order to enhance wilderness manageability. Vehicle use for construction (if wilderness values are benefitted) and maintenance of livestock management facilities would be allowed when no other means are practical. Other existing livestock operations would be allowed. ORV recreation-related activity would be prohibited.

Casa Diablo (CA-010-082): Same as Alternative I.

Excelsior (CA-010-088): Same as Alternative I.

Granite Mountains (CA-010-090): A portion of the Granite Mountains WSA (20,760 acres) is recommended nonsuitable for wilderness. Conflicting resource values and manageability problems, which contribute to this recommendation, include numerous mining claims with moderate potential for metallic minerals (i.e. moderate probability for valid existing rights), low

to moderate potential for uranium, and moderate to high potential for geothermal resources (a majority of the nonsuitable area is in the Mono-Long Valley KGRA; geothermal leases are currently pending in this area). In addition, manageability problems include an irregular boundary configuration, potential access and utilization of non-public land (80 acres), an existing aqueduct application with purchase rights by the City of Los Angeles, and a Cal Trans material site right-of-way on the WSA's southeastern boundary. Multiple use activities that would occur in the nonsuitable area also include grazing operations; maintenance and/or construction of livestock facilities; proposed burns, sprays, and fuelwood harvesting; ORV recreation-related use; and motorized access needs.

The remainder of the Granite Mountain WSA (32,021 BLM acres and 3,960 acres of adjacent roadless USFS land) is recommended as suitable for wilderness designation. This area encompasses portions of some rugged mountains, volcanic basalts, and the Mono Basin, supporting diverse vegetation and unique wildlife. These values, as well as scenic views of the Eastern Sierra, the White Mountains, Glass Mountain, and Mono Lake, contribute to a natural wilderness setting. However, some land use encumbrances still remain. A small portion (3,400 acres or 4%) of the Mono-Long Valley KGRA is located in the suitable area (leases are currently pending). Geothermal potential is high in the KGRA and moderate elsewhere. Uranium potential is moderate in the southern portion of the WSA. There is moderate potential for sand and gravel in the closed basins. However, no known mining claims are in the suitable area; metallic mineral potential is low. Manageability concerns include potential access and utilization of non-public land (120 acres) and a slight localized impact to solitude along WSA boundary roads. Maintenance and/or construction of livestock facilities, including motorized access where no other means are practical, would be allowed. Proposed harvesting of fuelwood resources, prescribed burns (4,200 acres), and sprays (2,500 acres) would not be allowed.

Walford Springs (CA-010-092): Same as Alternative I.

Mormon Meadows (CA-010-094): Same as Alternative I.

Mt. Biedeman (CA-010-095): A portion of the WSA (3,120 acres) is recommended as nonsuitable due to the existence of resource and manageability conflicts. These include an irregular boundary pattern, in the southern portion of the WSA, which is not easily recognizable; high metallic mineral potential in the northeast portion of the WSA, which is staked with numerous mining claims (i.e. high probability for valid existing rights); the existence of a telephone line right-of-way in the north portion of the WSA; and potential access and utilization of non-public land.

A sizable portion (9,300 acres) of the WSA is recommended suitable. It has retained its overall naturalness and contains sensitive plant species. However, remaining land use conflicts include moderate to high geothermal resource potential (lease applications are currently pending for a small portion of the WSA), and scattered mining claims are located throughout. Fuelwood harvesting (300 acres), proposed reservoirs, and snowmobiling activity would be prohibited. Vehicle use for maintenance and/or construction (if wilderness values are benefitted) of livestock management facilities would be allowed when no other means are practical.

Bodie Mountains (CA-010-099): A portion of the Bodie Mountain WSA (13,570 acres) is recommended nonsuitable due to existing resource conflicts and manageability issues. These include areas of high potential for metallic minerals; development of unpatented mining claims (i.e., high probability for valid existing rights in high potential areas); potential access and utilization of 1,440 acres of non-public land; moderate to high geothermal resource potential (lease applications are pending); a lack of natural features to easily identify the western boundary; and the existence of a telephone line right-of-way along the southern edge of the WSA.

The remaining portion of the Bodie Mountain WSA (9,790 acres) is recommended as suitable. It has retained its overall naturalness and contains rolling terrain with numerous dissecting drainages and rock outcrops. Outstanding features include Big Alkali Flat, which is a collapsed volcanic caldera, and sensitive plant species. Most boundaries are easily identifiable, and natural barriers restrict vehicle encroachment. However, some resource and manageability problems remain in the suitable area. Geothermal potential is high (geothermal lease applications are pending), although geothermal resource potential is abundant outside the suitable area. Metallic mineral potential is high in the Cinnabar Canyon area; the remainder of the area is low. Additional encumbrances include the existence of numerous unpatented mining claims, potential access and utilization of 700 acres of non-public land, and utilization of cherrystem intrusion roads. On-going exploration, which is occurring in the Cinnabar Canyon area, somewhat impairs wilderness manageability. Under wilderness management, snowmobiling and fuelwood harvesting would be prohibited. Vehicle use for maintenance and/or construction (if wilderness values are benefitted) of livestock and wildlife management facilities would be allowed when no other means are practical. The 700 acres of non-public land are recommended for exchange or purchase in order to enhance wilderness manageability.

Bodie (CA-010-100): Portions of the WSA are recommended as nonsuitable for wilderness designation (8,510 acres). Resource conflicts and manageability concerns contribute to the nonsuitable recommendation. The area contains numerous mining claims in areas of moderate mineral potential (i.e. moderate probability for valid existing rights); moderate potential for geothermal resources (lease applications are currently pending); cherrystem intrusions; potential access and utilization needs of 360 acres of no-public land; and a lack of natural features to easily identify the western boundary.

A portion of the WSA (6,945 acres) is recommended suitable for wilderness designation. This portion contains rolling, mountainous terrain with deeply dissected drainages and rock outcrops. Outstanding features include the Rough Creek and Atastra Creek drainages, numerous aspen groves, a sphagnum peat bog, crucial fawning habitat for antelope and mule deer, Bodie historic mining remnants, and scenic vistas of the Beauty Peak/Dry Lakes plateau. Natural barriers aid in preventing vehicle encroachment. However, some resource conflicts and manageability issues exist in this suitable portion, including moderate geothermal resources (leases are currently pending) and unpatented mining claims in areas of primarily moderate to high metallic mineral potential (i.e. moderate to high probability for valid existing rights). Manageability would be hindered by a lack of natural or cultural features to easily identify some of the boundaries and influences from

outside sights and sounds, such as on-going mining exploration activity and potential utilization of non-public lands along the WSA borders. Interpretive facilities associated with Bodie State Historic Park would be prohibited. Rockhounding, requiring motorized access, and snowmobiling needs would be foregone, as well as fuelwood harvesting. Vehicle access for maintenance and/or construction (when wilderness values are benefitted) of livestock and wildlife management facilities would be allowed when no other means are practical.

Masonic Mountain (CA-010-102): Same as Alternative I.

Slinkard (CA-010-105/NV-030-531): Same as Alternative I.

Alternative IV -- No Wilderness

Objectives

Sacatar Meadows, Cerro Gordo, Southern Inyo, Independence Creek, Crater Mountain, Symmes Creek, Chidago Canyon, Fish Slough, Volcanic Tableland, Casa Diablo, Excelsior, Granite Mountains, Walford Springs, Mormon Meadows, Mt. Biedeman, Bodie Mountains, Bodie, Masonic Mountains, and Slinkard WSAs will be managed for utilization of all resources, including those not compatible with wilderness designation. Land uses will be managed in accordance with existing Management Framework Plans (MFPs).

Description of Alternative

All WSAs, a total of 298,726 acres, will be recommended as nonsuitable for wilderness designation.

Management of Cerro Gordo, Southern Inyo, Independence Creek, Crater Mountain, Symmes Creek, Chidago Canyon, Fish Slough, Volcanic Tableland, Casa Diablo, and a portion of Granite Mountains would be as outlined in the Benton/Owens Valley MFP and further defined in the description of Alternative I for nonsuitable areas. Excelsior, Walford Springs, Mormon Meadows, Mt. Biedeman, Bodie Mountains, Bodie, Masonic Mountains, the Bakersfield District portion of Slinkard, and the remainder of Granite Mountains would be managed in accordance with the Bodie/Coleville MFP and as further defined in the description of Alternative I for nonsuitable areas. The Carson City District portion of the Slinkard WSA would be managed in accordance with the Reno MFP and as further defined in the description of Alternative I for this area. The Sacatar Meadows WSA is presently managed on a case-by-case basis for multi-resource utilization to meet public demand while encouraging environmental protection. Additional management prescriptions are outlined in the cooperative agreement with CDF&G with regard to the area's designation as part of the Monache-Walker Pass NCLWMA (since January, 1962) and are also outlined under the description of Alternative I for the nonsuitable portions.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED BUT REJECTED

Greater acreages of suitable recommendations were considered for analysis. However, planning did not result in any realistic partial wilderness recommendations over 158,219 acres. Attempts to expand the acreage recommended suitable in the partial alternative by creating partial wilderness proposals for each WSA were considered. However, these were rejected for many WSAs due to overriding resource conflicts, low wilderness values, or the potential partial proposals lacking sufficient size or manageable configuration, after exclusion of unmanageable portions, to be realistically considered for wilderness.

In the areas recommended as nonsuitable for wilderness designation, no alternatives to management under the existing MFPs were considered, since the Wilderness MFP-Amendment format requires only the consideration of the wilderness resource as an additional element in the existing plans.

Implications of Wilderness Designation

Section 603(a) of FLPMA directs the BLM to review roadless areas for wilderness qualities. Congress reserved the right to designate wilderness areas. Following this designation, BLM will administer wilderness areas utilizing the same provisions of the Wilderness Act of 1964 which apply to National Forest wilderness areas as incorporated in the Bureau Wilderness Management Policy, September, 1981. Table 2-1 identifies the relationship between wilderness management under the Act and: (1) earlier legislation and (2) certain of the resources present within the WSAs.

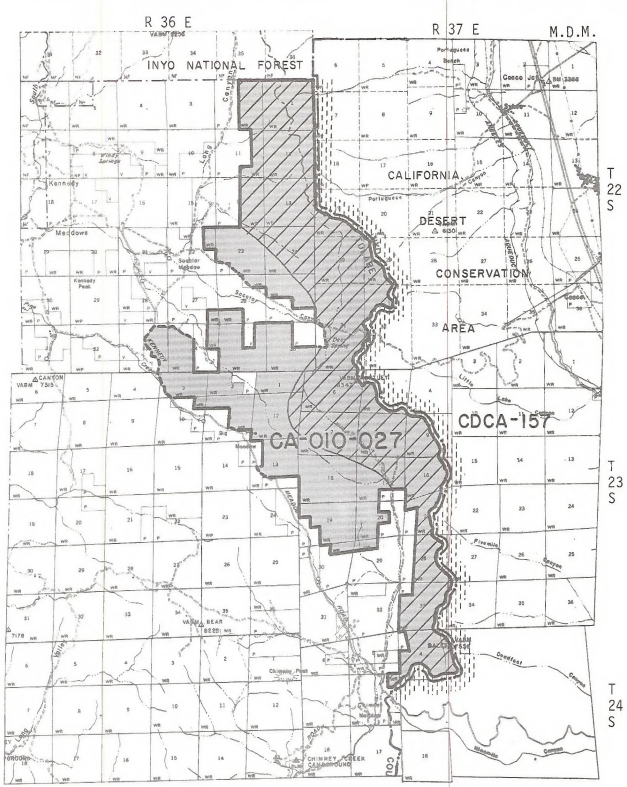
Table 2-1
Implications of Wilderness Designation

| | |
|---|---|
| Multiple-Use Sustained-Yield Act of 1960 | Wilderness Act states that there is no basic conflict. However, motorized vehicles and equipment, landing of aircraft, roads, structures, installations, and commercial enterprises are prohibited. |
| Mining Law of 1872 | Wilderness Act allows mineral entry and development in wilderness areas only until midnight, December 31, 1983, after which only patented claims and claims with valid existing rights may continue operations. All title to land surface reserved to the United States. No use of surface that is not reasonably required for mining or prospecting except as otherwise expressly provided in Wilderness Act. |
| Access | Right of access to mining claims, state-owned and privately-owned land is preserved, and roads can be maintained. |

| | |
|---|---|
| Land Exchange | Public land outside wilderness can be exchanged for inholdings. However, designated Wilderness lands cannot be exchanged. They may be transferred to other Federal agencies as long as they remain Wilderness. |
| Grazing | Grazing existing prior to designation may continue under the Wilderness Act. Certain uses, such as use of motorized vehicles to support grazing, are permissible (House Report 96-617). No new grazing uses permitted without act of Congress after designation. However, allotment management plans may be developed for existing grazing leases. |
| Wildlife and Vegetation | Exotic species cannot be introduced. Most vegetation eradication measures prohibited unless case-by-case assessment indicates minor impacts on wilderness values. |
| Wilderness Management Plans | Will be developed and will specify visitor management methods needed to mitigate human impacts on wilderness values. Will specify systems to monitor use and detect adverse impacts. |
| Emergency Situations | Wilderness qualities may be adversely affected in situations involving human health and safety. Law enforcement agencies may use motor vehicles in emergencies. Normal patrol would be barred, however. |
| Wildfires and Insect Epidemics | May be attacked with any tool available if threatening human life or property within the wilderness or life, resources, or property outside of the wilderness. Tools and methods will be selected to cause minimum degradation. Pre- and post-suppression methods permitted, but should benefit wilderness or the protection of public health and safety. |

TABLE 2-2
AFFECTS OF THE ALTERNATIVES (CUMULATIVE IMPACTS)

| Element | Alternative I | Alternative II | Alternative III | Alternative IV |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Wilderness Deaignation | | | | |
| a. Suitable | 53,089 acres | 298,726 acres | 158,219 acres | 0 acres |
| b. Nonauitable | 245,637 acres | 0 acres | 140,507 acres | 298,726 acres |
| c. Total WSA | 298,726 acres | 298,726 acres | 298,726 acres | 298,726 acres |
| Recreation | | | | |
| a. ORV Use | Not permitted on 53,089 acres. | Not permitted. | Not permitted on 158,219 acres. | No impact. |
| b. Hunting/Sight-Seeing/Rock-hounding/Others | Increased walking distances resulting from vehicle route closures on 53,089 acres. | Increased walking distances resulting from vehicle route closures. | Increased walking distances resulting form vehicle route closures on 140,507 acres. | No impact. |
| Vegetation | | | | |
| a. Range & Wildlife Improvementa | Vehicle use for development and maintenance of improvements when no other means are practical. | Same as Alternative I. | Same aa Alternative I. | No change. |
| b. Liveatock Grazing | Vehicles permitted for maintenance of improvements when no other means are practical. Some project development constrained. Prescribed burns prohibited in Sacatar Meadows, resulting in loss of maximum stocking rate realization. | Vehicles permitted for maintenance of improvements when no other means are practical. Some project developments constrained. Prescribed burns and sprays prohibited in Symmes Creek, Independence Creek, Granite Mountains, and Sacatar Meadows, reaulting in loss of increased forage production. | Loss of increased forage production in Granite Mountains and Sacatar Meadows. Vehicles permitted for maintenance of improvements when no other means are practical. Some project developments constrained. | No change. |
| c. Harveating of Wood Products | No change. | Precluded. | Precluded in suitable areas. | No impact. |
| d. Non-Commercial Pinyon Nut Harvesting | Constrained in Sacatar Meadows by lack of vehicular access. | Constrained by lack of vehicular access. | Constrained by lack of vehicular accesa in suitable areas. | No change. |
| RTE/Senaitive Species | Enhanced protection through wilderness deaignation. | Enhanced protection through wilderness deaignation. | Enhanced protection in suitable areas through wilderness deaignation. | Protected under Endangered Species Act and Bureau policy. |
| Land Use Adjustment | None proposed. | Acquisition of 4,160 acres. Intensive land uses in Masonic Mountain prohibited. | Acquisition of 1,340 acres. | None proposed. |
| Minerals/Energy | No new claims or leases after Dec. 31, 1983, on 53,089 acres. | No new claims or leases after Dec. 31, 1983. | No new claims or leases after December 31, 1983, on 158,219 acrea. | No impact. |
| Cultural | | | | |
| a. Intensive Research and Evaluation | No impact. | Permitted under special authorization for Crater Mountain, Chidago Canyon, and Fish Slough. | Permitted under special authorization for suitable areas in Crater Mountain, Chidago Canyon and Fish Slough. | No impact. |
| b. Interpretive Facilities | Not allowed in suitable areas of Cerro Gordo and Southern Inyo. | Not allowed inside Cerro Gordo, Southern Inyo, Granite Mountains, Mt. Biedeman, and Bodie. | Not allowed in suitable areas of Granite Mountains, Cerro Gordo, and Southern Inyo. | No impact. |



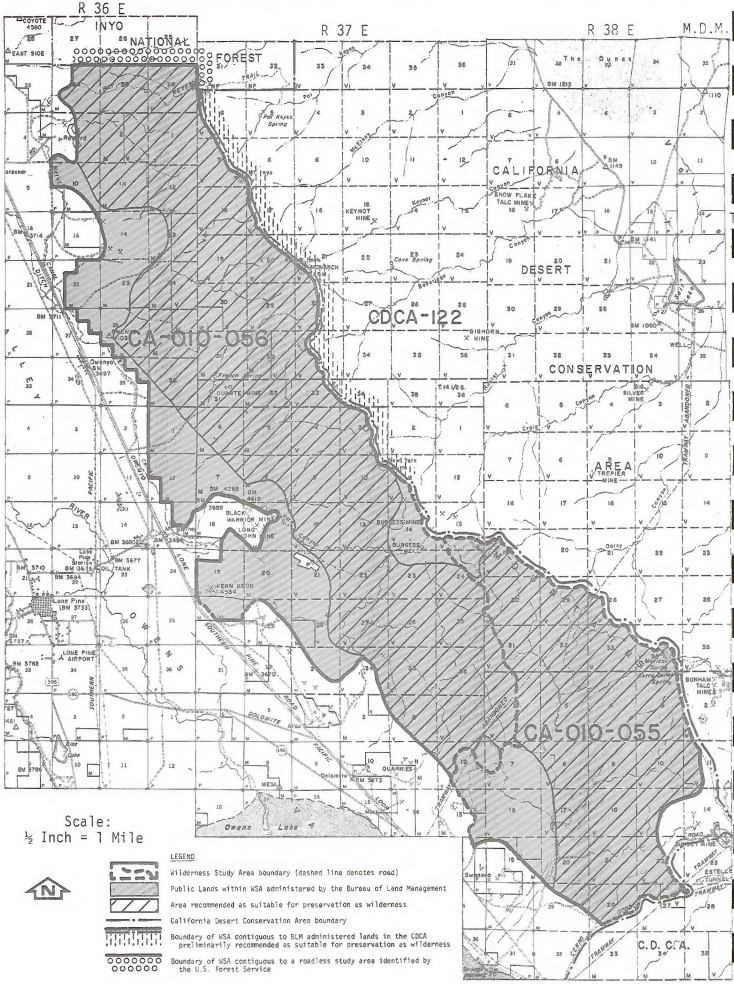

Scale:
½ Inch = 1 Mile

LEGEND

- Wilderness Study Area boundary (dashed line denotes road)
- Public Lands within WSA administered by the Bureau of Land Management
- Area recommended as suitable for preservation as wilderness
- California Desert Conservation Area boundary
- Boundary of WSA contiguous to BLM administered lands in the CDCA preliminarily recommended as suitable for preservation as wilderness

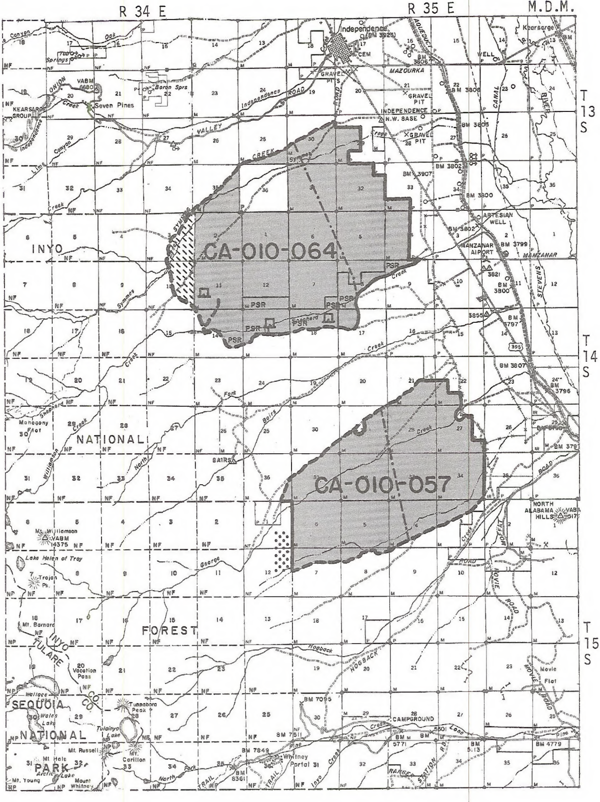
Benton-Owens Valley / Bodie-Coleville Wilderness Environmental Impact Statement

Map 2-a Alternative I - Proposed Action




**Benton-Owens Valley / Bodie-Coleville Wilderness Environmental Impact Statement**

**Map 2-b Alternative I - Proposed Action**




LEGEND

Wilderness Study Area boundary (dashed line denotes road)

Public lands within WSA administered by the Bureau of Land Management

NONE Area recommended as suitable for preservation as wilderness

Uninventoried National Forest lands with BLM study lead

Transmission line Right-of-Way

PSR Power Site Reserve

Apiary Site

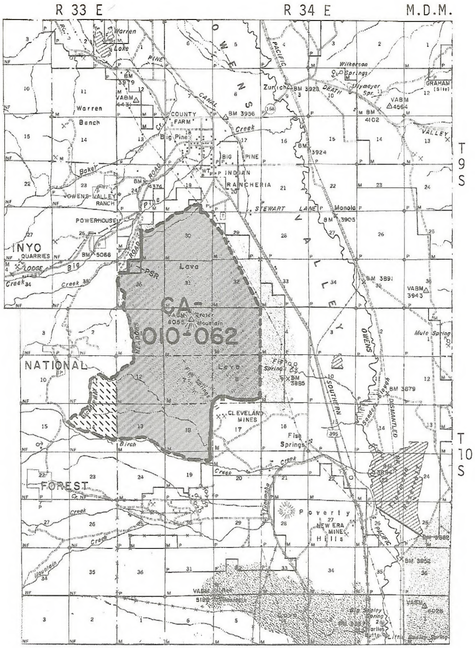
Boundary of WSA contiguous to a proposed wilderness by another agency

N

Scale:
½ Inch = 1 Mile

**Benton-Owens Valley / Bodie-Coleville Wilderness Environmental Impact Statement**

**Map 2-c Alternative I - Proposed Action**




LEGEND

Wilderness Study Area boundary (dashed line denotes road)

Public Lands within WSA administered by the Bureau of Land Management

NONE — Area recommended as suitable for preservation as wilderness

Uninventoried National Forest lands with BLM study lead

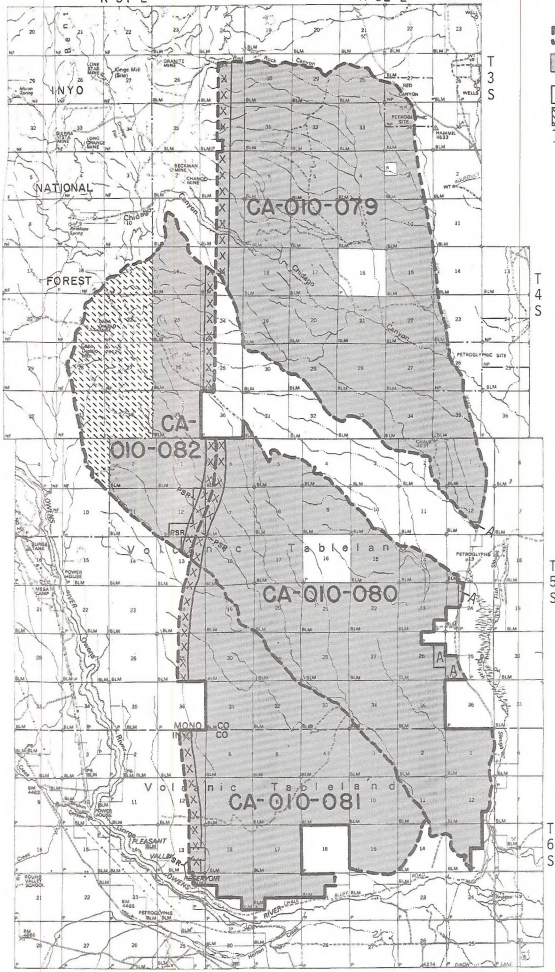
PSR — Power Site Reserve

N

Scale:
½ Inch = 1 Mile

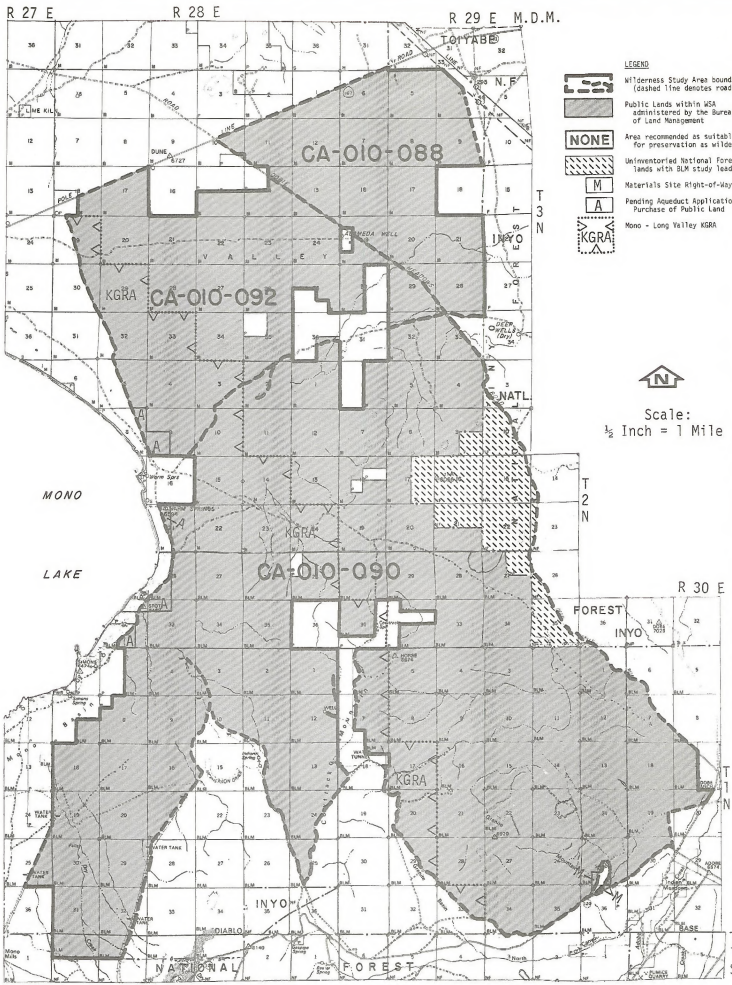
Benton-Owens Valley / Bodie-Coleville Wilderness Environmental Impact Statement

Map 2-d    Alternative I - Proposed Action



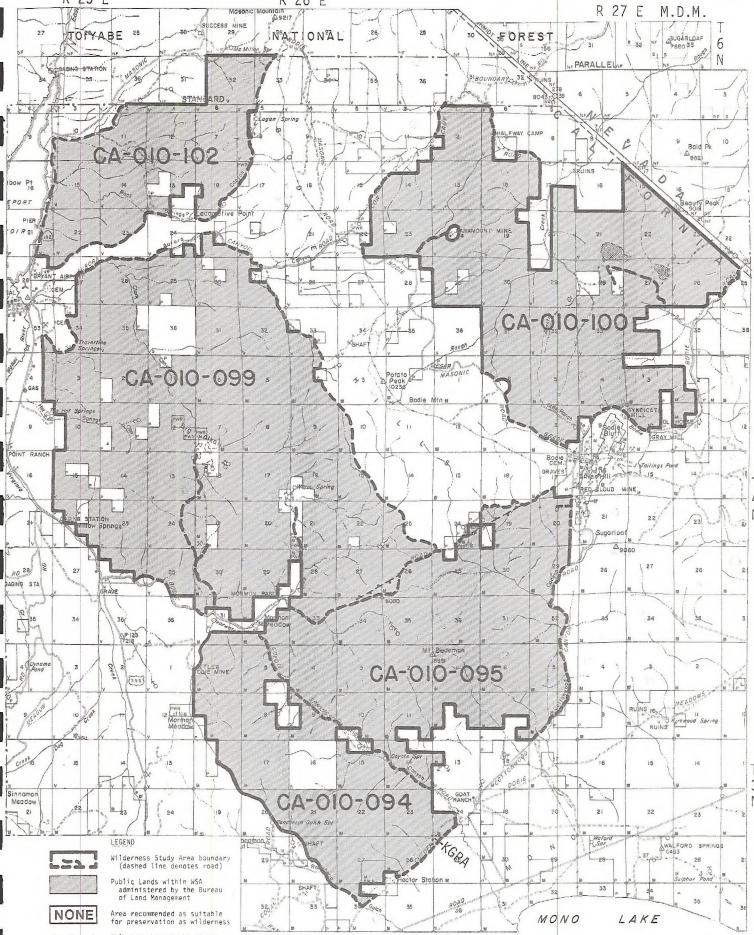

Benton-Owens Valley / Bodie-Coleville Wilderness Environmental Impact Statement

Map 2-e Alternative I - Proposed Action



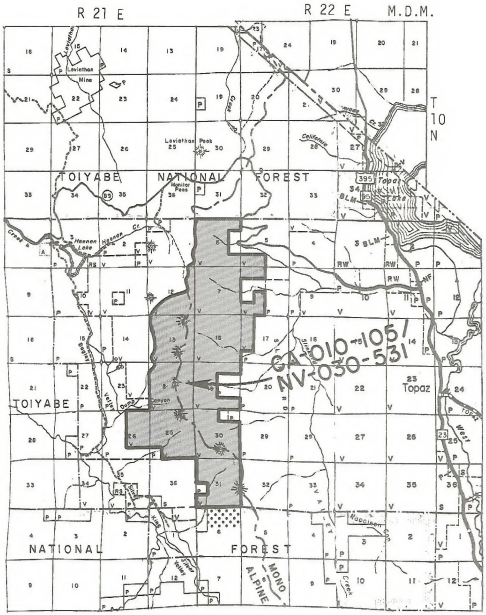

Benton-Owens Valley / Bodie-Coleville Wilderness Environmental Impact Statement

Map 2-f Alternative I - Proposed Action



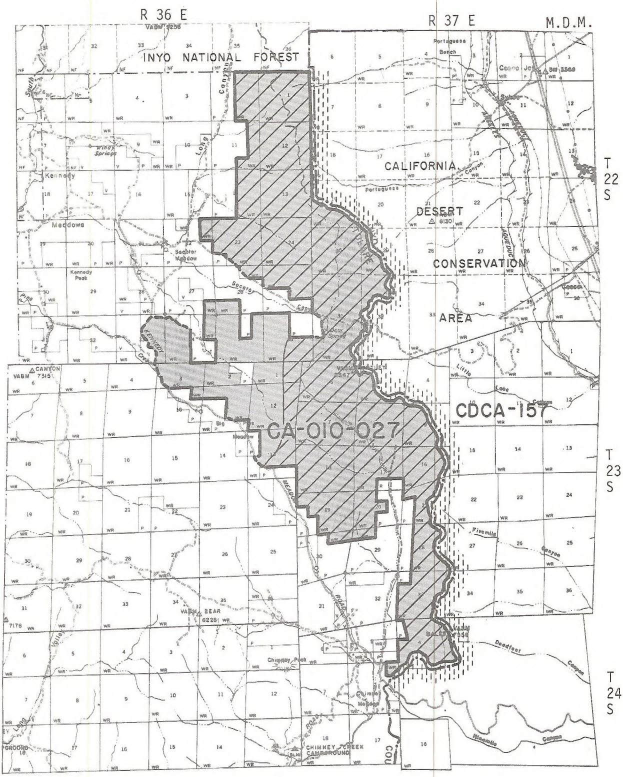

**Benton-Owens Valley / Bodie-Coleville Wilderness Environmental Impact Statement**

**Map 2-g Alternative I - Proposed Action**




Benton-Owens Valley / Bodie-Coleville Wilderness Environmental Impact Statement

**Map 2-h Alternative I - Proposed Action**




LEGEND

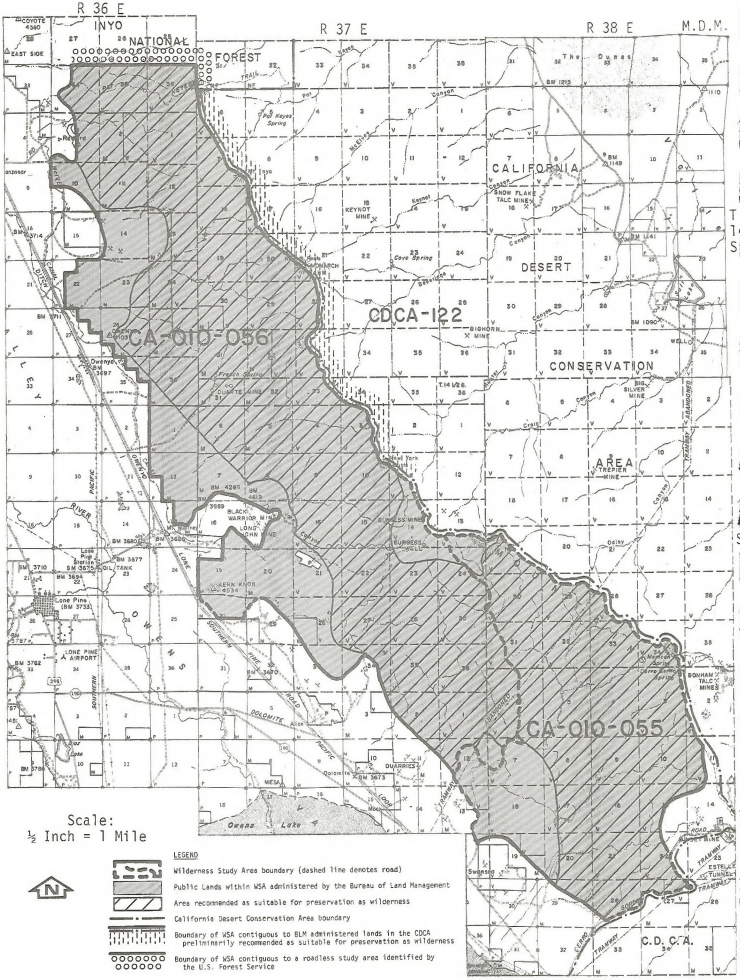
- Wilderness Study Area boundary (dashed line denotes road)
- Public Lands within WSA administered by the Bureau of Land Management
- Area recommended as suitable for preservation as wilderness
- California Desert Conservation Area boundary
- Boundary of WSA contiguous to BLM administered lands in the CDCA preliminarily recommended as suitable for preservation as wilderness

N

Scale:
½ Inch = 1 Mile

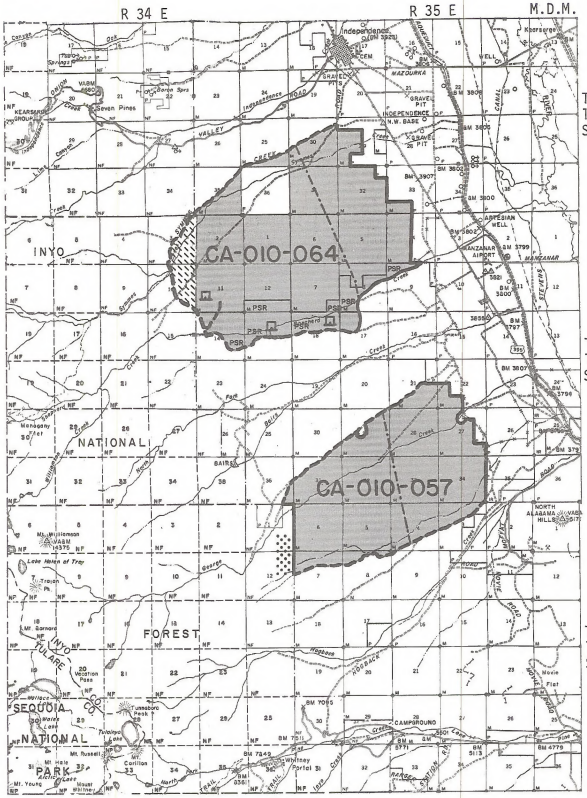
**Benton-Owens Valley / Bodie-Coleville Wilderness Environmental Impact Statement**

**Map 3-a Alternative III - Partial Wilderness**




**Benton-Owens Valley / Bodie-Coleville Wilderness Environmental Impact Statement**

**Map 3-b Alternative III - Partial Wilderness**



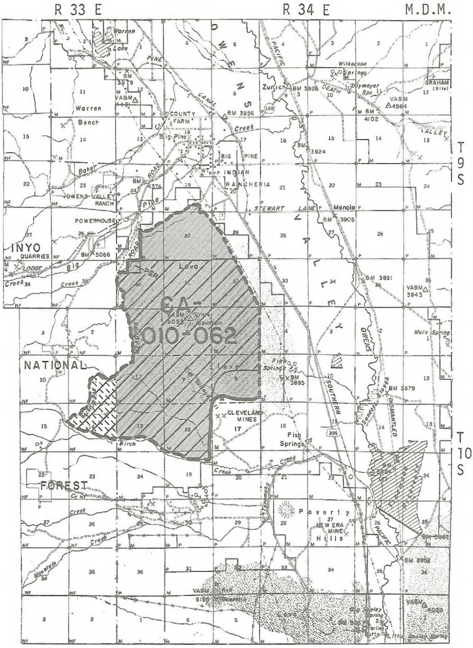

LEGEND

- Wilderness Study Area boundary (dashed line denotes road)
- Public lands within WSA administered by the Bureau of Land Management
- NONE — Area recommended as suitable for preservation as wilderness
- Uninventoried National Forest lands with BLM study lead
- Transmission line Right-of-Way
- PSR — Power Site Reserve
- Apiary Site
- Boundary of WSA contiguous to a proposed wilderness by another agency

Scale:
½ Inch = 1 Mile

**Benton-Owens Valley / Bodie-Coleville Wilderness Environmental Impact Statement**

**Map 3-c Alternative III - Partial Wilderness**




N

Scale:
½ Inch = 1 Mile

LEGEND

Wilderness Study Area boundary (dashed line denotes road)

Public Lands within WSA administered by the Bureau of Land Management

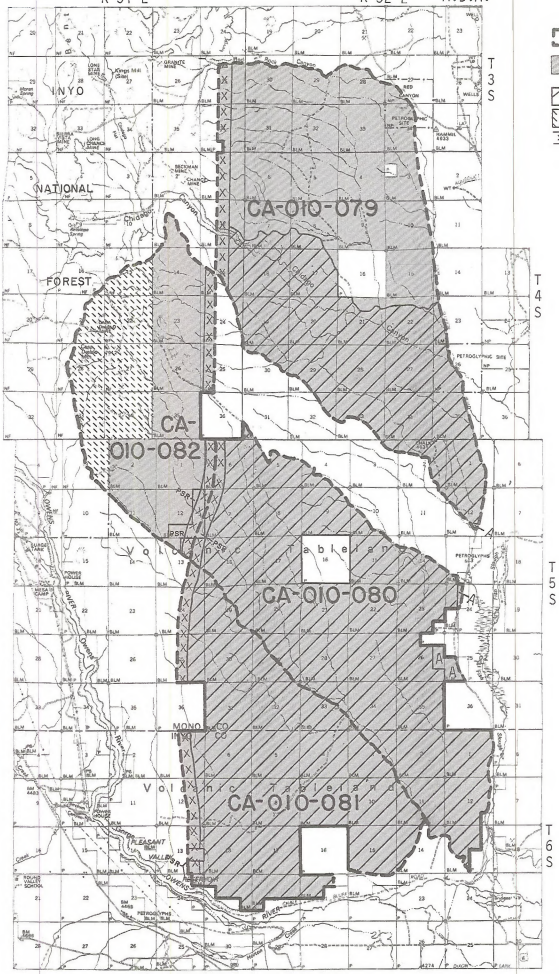
Area recommended as suitable for preservation as wilderness

Uninventoried National Forest lands with BLM study lead

PSR Power Site Reserve

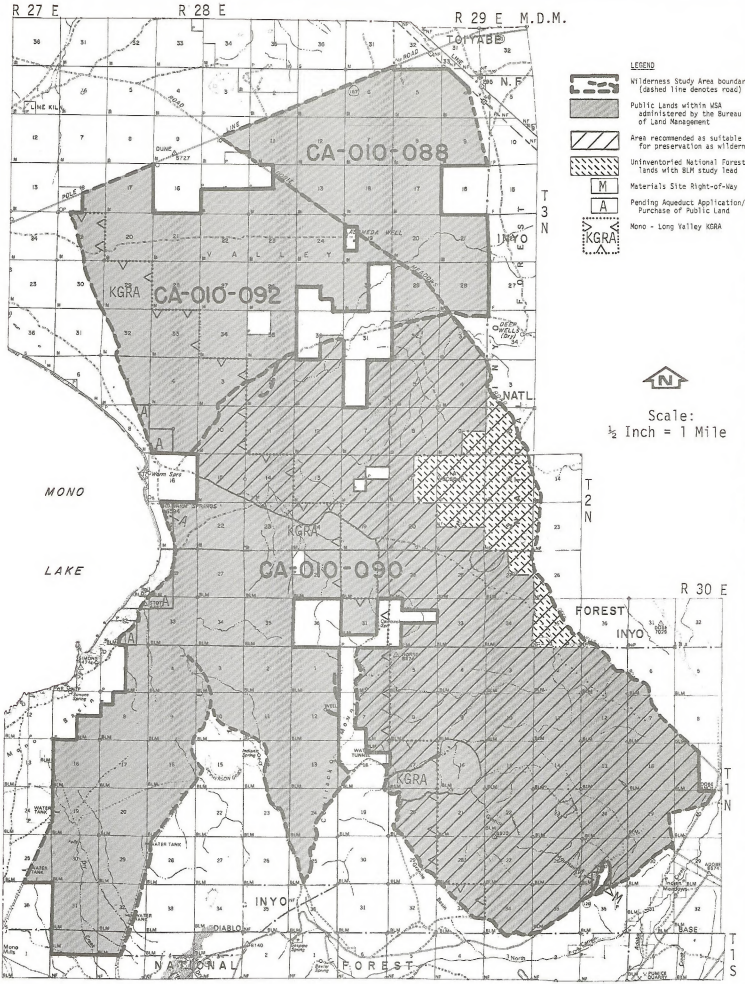
**Benton-Owens Valley / Bodie-Coleville Wilderness Environmental Impact Statement**

**Map 3-d Alternative III - Partial Wilderness**



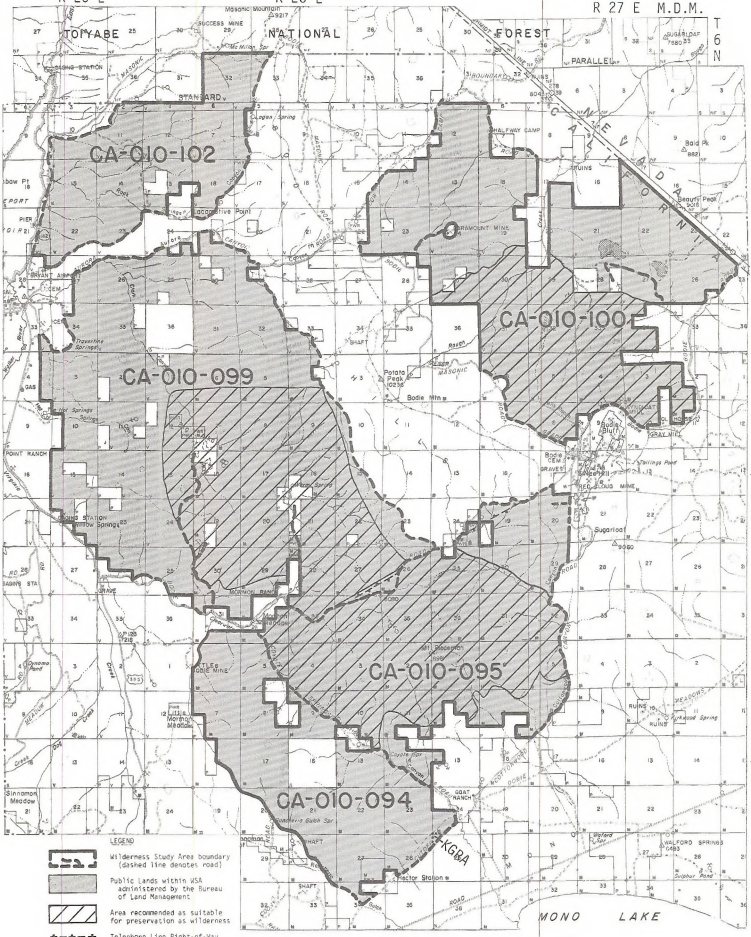

Benton-Owens Valley / Bodie-Coleville Wilderness Environmental Impact Statement

**Map 3-e Alternative III - Partial Wilderness**



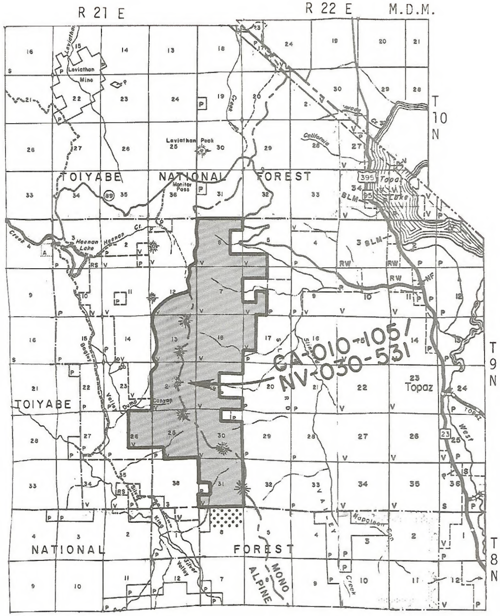

Benton-Owens Valley / Bodie-Coleville Wilderness Environmental Impact Statement

Map 3-f Alternative III - Partial Wilderness




Benton-Owens Valley / Bodie-Coleville Wilderness Environmental Impact Statement

**Map 3-g Alternative III - Partial Wilderness**




Scale:
½ Inch = 1 Mile

LEGEND

Wilderness Study Area boundary (dashed line denotes road)

Public Lands within WSA administered by the Bureau of Land Management

NONE — Area recommended as suitable for preservation as wilderness

Boundary of WSA contiguous to a proposed wilderness by another agency

**Benton-Owens Valley / Bodie-Coleville Wilderness Environmental Impact Statement**

**Map 3-h Alternative III - Partial Wilderness**

# Chapter 3

# Affected Environment

# CHAPTER III

# AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

## DATA BASE

Data was collected through field research, review of current research documents prepared by other public agencies, public meetings and workshops, information request letters, and personal contacts with known experts.

The wilderness qualities were identified by field examinations using the methods described in the BLM Wilderness Inventory Handbook, September 27, 1978, public meetings, and analysis of public comments on the California Statewide Non-Desert Wilderness Inventory.

The study of the Bishop Resource Area WSAs utilized existing data from the Benton-Owens Valley and Bodie-Coleville planning efforts. Data for the Caliente Resource Area studies was taken from the South Sierra Foothills planning area inventories. Data for the Carson City District portion of WSA CA-010-105/NV-030-531 was taken from the Reno planning data base.

## GENERAL

This chapter describes the existing environment of the EIS area for purposes of identifying potential impacts of the proposed action and alternatives in the following chapter. Although all resources were considered during the planning process, only those considered significant with regard to the issues identified in Chapter I and impacts outlined in Chapter IV are addressed in this Chapter.

The following information on population centers, geographic distribution, and landform/ecosystem diversity is intended to provide background for the pertinent sections of the Wilderness Planning Criteria Matrix. The matrix represents a short summary of the wilderness values found in each WSA. Following the matrix are tables describing other significant resource values in each WSA and a wilderness manageability paragraph which elaborates on the manageability section in the matrix.

### Population Centers:

A major West Coast population center is within a day's drive (5 hours) of the wilderness study areas in this EIS. It is the Los Angeles Metropolitan Area with an overall population exceeding 9 million people (1980 census figures). In a more localized context, 13 Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas (SMSAs - see Glossary for a definition) fall within a day's drive of at least one or more of the WSAs. A list of these population centers and their corresponding populations follows. The Wilderness Planning Criteria Matrix indicates the numbers of these SMSAs that are within a day's drive of each WSA.

Population Centers (SMSAs) Within a Day's Drive (5 hours) of the WSAs in this EIS

| SMSA | Population |
|---|---|
| Anaheim-Santa Ana-Garden Grove | 1,925,840 |
| Bakersfield | 401,540 |
| Chico | 143,851 |
| Fresno | 507,005 |
| Los Angeles-Long Beach | 7,444,521 |
| Modesto | 265,671 |
| Oxnard-Simi Valley-Ventura | 529,425 |
| Reno | 193,623 |
| Riverside-Ontario-San Bernardino | 1,538,066 |
| Sacramento | 1,010,989 |
| Santa Barbara-Santa Maria-Lompoc | 297,722 |
| Stockton | 347,312 |
| Visalia-Tulare-Porterville | 245,738 |

Geographic Distribution

Nine existing wilderness areas, totalling 1,263,356 acres, are located within 100 miles of the EIS WSAs. A large number of administratively endorsed wilderness study areas and other study areas also fall within the 100 mile radius. As an example, 24 administratively endorsed wilderness study areas totalling 1,948,161 acres and 100 other study areas totalling 2,388,106 acres fall within the 100 mile radius from the Granite Mountain WSA. The following list represents the existing wilderness areas located within 100 miles of the WSAs in the EIS area. The Wilderness Planning Criteria Matrix indicates the number of existing wilderness areas and the total acreage within the 100 mile radius of each WSA.

Designated Wilderness Areas Within 100 Miles of the WSAs

| Name | Administering Agency | Size |
|---|---|---|
| Desolation | USFS | 63,475 acres |
| Domeland | USFS | 62,686 acres |
| Emigrant | USFS | 106,091 acres |
| Golden Trout | USFS | 303,287 acres |
| Hoover | USFS | 48,601 acres |
| John Muir | USFS | 499,675 acres |
| Kaiser | USFS | 22,700 acres |
| Minarets | USFS | 107,380 acres |
| Mokelumne | USFS | 49,461 acres |

Landform/Ecosystem Diversity

Four landform/ecosystems are represented in the EIS WSAs, as determined through classification utilizing the Bailey-Kuchler Ecosystems of the United States classification system. The four landform/ecosystems are listed

below. The Wilderness Planning Criteria Matrix indicates the number of existing wilderness areas with representatives of each WSA's landform/ecosystem and the total acreage represented in the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Landform - Ecosystem

Intermountain Sagebrush Province - Great Basin Sagebrush
Intermountain Sagebrush Province - Juniper-Pinyon Woodland
Sierran Forest Province - Mixed Conifer Forest
Sierran Forest Province - Juniper-Pinyon Woodland

TABLE 3-1

# WILDERNESS PLANNING CRITERIA MATRIX

| WILDERNESS VALUES | | | SACATAR MEADOWS | CERRO GORDO | SOUTHERN INYO | INDEPENDENCE CREEK | CRATER MOUNTAIN |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| WILDERNESS CHARACTERISTIC | SIZE | | 18,175 acres | 16,102 acres | 36,600 acres | 6,250 acres | 6,760 acres BLM<br>500 acres USFS |
| | NATURALNESS | | Generally natural; a few primitive vehicle routes. | A tramway, a few primitive vehicle routes, & inactive mining & workings. South portion (west of Cerro Gordo) blanketed with mining claims. Overall very natural. | A tramway, a few primitive vehicle routes, & inactive mine workings. Numerous mining claims primarily on west side. Overall very natural. | Contains fence, primitive vehicle routes, unpatented mining claims, water spreading & flood control facilities. Transmission line right-of-way bisects thru WSA. | Some primitive vehicle routes, a pipeline, and fenceline. |
| | SOLITUDE/ PRIMITIVE RECREATION | | Hampered by narrow shape & protruding character. Outstanding opportunities exist only in conjunction with CDCA WSA #157. | Outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation. Size, topographic screening, & diverse terrain. Slight impact from outside influences of boundary roads, Cerro Gordo mining, etc. | Outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation. Diverse terrain, topographic screening, and size. Slight impact from outside influences such as mining activity, etc. | Outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation. Slight impact from outside influences of Manzanar, U.S. Highway 395, etc. | Outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation. Configuration of WSA and nature of landform influenced by outside sights and sounds. |
| MULTIPLE RESOURCE BENEFITS | SPECIAL FEATURES | | Contains winter range for the Monache-Walker Pass Deer Herd. | Saline Valley Salt Tram (National Register of Historic Places). | Saline Valley Salt Tram (Nat'l Hist. Site); Pat Keyes Hist. Mining Trail; USFWS candidate species- Sclerocactus polyancistrus; Brickellcrone Pine (Pinus aristata); BLM sensitive species- (Eutrachoceps campi) | George Creek and associated riparian habitat. | Crater Mountain Cinder Cone and associated lava flows; cultural values. |
| | | | Designation would help protect the Monache-Walker Pass Deer Herd. | Protection of Cultural Values. | Protection of wildlife habitat, sensitive plants/habitat, and cultural values. | Protection of watershed and riparian zones. | Protection of natural and cultural values. |
| DIVERSITY | NATURAL SYSTEMS | | Sierran Forest Province - Juniper-Pinyon Woodland not represented in NWPS. | Intermountain Sagebrush Province - Pinyon-Juniper Woodland represented by 3 wilderness areas (43,168 ac.); 7 administratively endorsed WSAs (165,170 acres). | Intermountain Sagebrush Province - Pinyon-Juniper Woodland represented by 3 wilderness areas (43,168 ac.); 7 administratively endorsed WSAs (165,170 acres). | Intermountain Sagebrush Province - Great Basin Sagebrush ecosystem represented by 2 wilderness areas (7,020 acres), 6 administratively endorsed WSAs (638,010 acres). | Intermountain Sagebrush Province - Great Basin Sagebrush ecosystem represented by 2 wilderness areas (7,020 acres), 6 administratively endorsed WSAs (638,010 acres). |
| | OPPORTUNITIES NEAR POPULATION CENTERS | | Within one day's drive of seven SMSAs. Low to moderate demand for primitive recreation. | Within one day's drive of 5 SMSAs. | Within one day's drive of 5 SMSAs. | Within one day's drive of 5 SMSAs. | Within one day's drive of 3 SMSAs. |
| | GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION | | Within 100 miles of: 2 wilderness areas (365,973 acres); 11 admin. endorsed units (2,824,611 acres); 78 other WSAs (2,601,061 acres). | Within 100 miles of: 4 wilderness areas (888,348 acres); 16 admin. endorsed WSAs (2,825,871 acres); and 112 other WSAs (3,281,966 acres). | Within 100 miles of: 4 wilderness areas (888,348 acres); 16 admin. endorsed WSAs (2,825,871 acres); and 112 other WSAs (3,281,966 acres). | Within 100 miles of: 5 wilderness areas (995,728 acres); 19 admin. endorsed units (2,931,591 acres); and 109 other WSAs (3,066,123 acres). | Within 100 miles of: 6 wilderness areas (1,044,329 acres); 21 admin. endorsed units (3,657,591 acres); and 108 other WSAs (2,927,143 acres). |
| MANAGE-ABILITY | | | Some difficulty due to non-public land fingers extending into unit and narrow, irregular shape. Manageability enhanced along eastern edge by adjacent suitable recommendation. | Manageability somewhat limited due to potential valid existing mineral rights. Topographical barriers would deter vehicle encroachment. | Manageability somewhat limited by potential development of patented claims and potential valid existing mineral rights. Rugged terrain deters vehicle encroachment and outside influences. | Effective management hindered by lack of easily identifiable boundary features and natural barriers, transmission line right-of-way, unpatented mining claims, outside influences of Manzanar, U.S. Highway 395, etc. | Effective management enhanced by easily identifiable boundaries; hindered by outside influences, Power Site Reserves, and unpatented mining claims. |

TABLE 3-1 (Cont.)

# WILDERNESS PLANNING CRITERIA MATRIX

| | | | SYMMES CREEK | CHIDAGO CANYON | FISH SLOUGH | VOLCANIC TABLELAND | CASA DIABLO |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| WILDERNESS VALUES | WILDERNESS CHARACTERISTICS | SIZE | 7,700 acres BLM<br>430 acres USFS | 20,246 acres | 14,450 acres | 11,840 acres | 5,547 acres BLM<br>3,620 acres USFS |
| | | NATURALNESS | Contains 3 apiary sites, primitive vehicle routes, a cherrystem drainage diversion road, unpatented mining claims, & water spreading and flood control facilities. A transmission line right-of-way bisects the unit. | Primitive vehicle routes, several bird gazzlers, and range improvements. Volcanic terraces, rounded hills, and Chidago Canyon provide varied scenery. | Primitive vehicle routes. Overall very natural. Landform features are fairly unique. Excellent views of Eastern Sierra and White Mountains. | Primitive vehicle routes. Naturalness-landform features are fairly unique. Excellent views of Eastern Sierra and White Mountains. Overall very natural. | Primitive vehicle routes, surface disturbances associated with mining on Casa Diablo Mountian (located on adjacent USFS land). |
| | | SOLITUDE/ PRIMITIVE RECREATION | Outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation. Outside influences of HWY 395, Manzanar, Independence, cherry-stem intrusion, and apiary sites. | Outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation. Some outside influences of a transmission line on west boundary and road on east boundary. Scenic views of Eastern Sierra and White Mountians. | Outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation. Some outside influences from western boundary powerline and the eastern end southern boundary roads. | Outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation. Some outside influences of western boundary powerline, northern boundary road, and the Bishop community. | Outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation. Outside influences of western powerline and boundary roads. Mining activity on Casa Diablo Mountian affects solitude. |
| | SPECIAL FEATURES | | Sheperd and Symmes Creeks and associated riparian habitat. | Raptor & eagle (sensitive species) nesting areas in Chidago and Red Rock Canyons. Also contains cultural values used for research and observation. | Contains cultural values used for research and observation. | None | None |
| | MULTIPLE RESOURCE BENEFITS | | Protection of watershed and riparian zones. | Protection of cultural values and sensitive species. | Protection of cultural values. | None | None |
| | DIVERSITY | NATURAL SYSTEMS | Intermountain Sagebrush Province - Great Basin Sagebrush ecosystem represented by 2 wilderness areas (7,020 acres) and 6 administratively endorsed units (638,010 acres). | Intermountain Sagebrush Province - Great Basin Sagebrush ecosystem represented by 2 wilderness areas (7,020 acres), and 6 administratively endorsed WSAs (638,010 acres). | Intermountain Sagebrush Province - Great Basin Sagebrush ecosystem represented by 2 wilderness areas (7,020 acres) and 6 administratively endorsed units (638,010 acres). | Intermountain Sagebrush Province - Great Basin Sagebrush ecosystem represented by 2 wilderness areas (7,020 acres) and 6 administratively endorsed units (638,010 acres). | Intermountain Sagebrush Province - Great Basin Sagebrush ecosystem represented by 2 wilderness areas (7,020 acres) and 6 administratively endorsed units (638,010 acres). |
| | | OPPORTUNITIES NEAR POPULATION CENTERS | Within one day's drive of 5 SMSAs. | Within one day's drive of one SMSA. | Within one day's drive of 2 SMSAs. | Within one day's drive of 2 SMSAs. | Within one day's drive of one SMSA. |
| | | GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION | Within 100 miles of: 5 wilderness areas (995,728 acres); 19 administratively endorsed units (2,931,591 acres); and 111 other WSAs (3,047,235 acres). | Within 100 miles of: 6 wilderness areas (1,087,734 acres); 24 administratively endorsed WSAs (1,900,131 acres); and 106 other WSAs (2,755,015 acres). | Within 100 miles of: 6 wilderness areas (1,087,734 acres); 24 administratively endorsed units (1,900,131 acres); and 106 other WSAs (2,931,071 acres). | Within 100 miles of: 6 wilderness areas (1,087,734 acres); 24 administratively endorsed units (1,900,131 acres); and 106 other WSAs (2,938,961 acres). | Within 100 miles of: 6 wilderness areas (1,087,734 acres); 24 administratively endorsed units (1,900,131 units); and 107 other WSAs (2,778,033 acres). |
| | MANAGEABILITY | | Effective management hindered by lack of easily identifiable boundary features and natural barriers, transmission line right-of-way, unpatented mining claims, Power Site Reserves, and non-public land. | Management constrained by lack of natural barriers, ample availability of primitive vehicle routes including motorcycle trails, non-public land, and moderate mineral values. | Management somewhat limited due to non-public inholding, some lack of natural barriers, a Power Site Reserve, & existing aqueduct application. | Management limited by lack of natural barriers, some outside influences, and potential for Power Site Reserve development (valid existing rights). | Effective management difficult due to Power Site Reserve, potential valid existing mineral rights, and some lack of natural barriers. |

TABLE 3-1 (Cont.)

# WILDERNESS PLANNING CRITERIA MATRIX

| | | | EXCELSIOR | GRANITE MOUNTAINS | WALFORD SPRINGS | MORMON MEADOWS | MT. BIEDEMAN |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| WILDERNESS VALUES | WILDERNESS CHARACTERISTIC | SIZE | 9,100 acres | 52,781 acres BLM<br>3,960 acres USFS | 13,200 acres | 7,280 acres | 12,420 acres |
| | | NATURALNESS | Some primitive vehicle routes. | Primitive vehicle routes, fencelines, a pipeline with associated water facilities, and several mining prospects. Overall naturalness retained. | Primitive vehicle routes, a few fencelines. | A few primitive vehicle routes. | A fenceline, several primitive vehicle routes, a cherrystemmed road which leads to mining claims, and a telephone line right-of-way. Area has generally retained its overall naturalness. |
| | | SOLITUDE/ PRIMITIVE RECREATION | Outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation. Some slight outside influences from powerline on northeastern boundary and boundary roads. | Outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation. A few outside influences from Highway 120 and a material site right-of-way. | Outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation. Outside influences of boundary roads are slight. | Varied topography contributes to outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation. | Rugged hills, large size, and natural character of the unit provide outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation. |
| | SPECIAL FEATURES | | Presence of Astragalus pseudoidanthus (USFWS candidate species). | Astragalus pseudoidanthus (USFWS candidate species); Raptor nesting area; Bodie-Mono Hills Railroad; Pronghorn Antelope; potential habitat for Eriogonum ampullaceum (USFWS candidate species). | Presence of Astragalus pseudoidanthus (USFWS candidate species); Pronghorn Antelope. | Pronghorn antelope habitat; crucial deer fawning area; crucial nesting area for sage grouse; USFWS candidate species Draba quadricostata and Phacelia monoensis. | Historical remnants associated with Bodie State Park; pronghorn antelope habitat; crucial nesting area for sage grouse; USFWS candidate species - Draba quadricostata and Phacelia monoensis; Crucial fawning area. |
| | MULTIPLE RESOURCE BENEFITS | | Protection of sensitive plants and habitat. | Protection of wildlife habitat, sensitive plants and cultural values. | Protection of wildlife habitat and sensitive plants/habitat. | Protection of wildlife habitat; protection of sensitive species and habitat. | Protection of wildlife habitat; protection of sensitive species, and habitat; protection of cultural resources. |
| | DIVERSITY | NATURAL SYSTEMS | Intermountain Sagebrush Province - Great Basin Sagebrush ecosystem rep. by 2 wild. areas (7,020 ac.) & 6 admin. end. WSAs (638,010 ac.) ISP - Pin.-Jun. woodland rep. by 3 wild. areas (43,168 ac.) & 7 admin. end. WSAs (165,170 ac.) | Intermountain Sagebrush Province - Great Basin Sagebrush ecosystem rep. by 2 wilderness areas (7,020 ac.) & 6 admin. end. units (638,010 ac.) ISP - Pin.-Jun. woodland rep. by 3 wild. areas (43,168 ac.) & 7 admin. end. WSAs (165,170 ac.) | Intermountain Sagebrush Province - Pinyon-Juniper woodland represented by 3 wilderness areas (43,168 acres) 7 administratively endorsed WSAs (165,170 acres). | Intermountain Sagebrush Province - Pin.-Jun. wood ecosystem rep. by 3 wild. areas (43,168 ac.) & 7 admin. end. WSAs (165,170 ac.). ISP- Gr. Bas. Sagebr. ecos. rep. by 2 wild. areas (7,020 ac.) & 6 admin. end. WSAs (638,010 ac.) | Intermountain Sagebrush Province - Great Basin Sagebrush ecosystem rep. by 2 wild. areas (7,020 ac.) and 6 administratively endorsed WSAs (638,010 acres). |
| | | OPPORTUNITIES NEAR POPULATION CENTERS | Within one day's drive of 2 SMSAs. | Within one day's drive of 2 SMSAs. | Within one day's drive of 2 SMSAs. | Within one day's drive of 4 SMSAs. | Within one day's drive of 4 SMSAs. |
| | | GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION | Within 100 miles of: 7 wilderness areas (897,383 ac.); 23 admin. endorsed units (1,933,761 ac.); and 97 other WSAs (2,400,327 ac.). | Within 100 miles of: 7 wilderness areas (897,383 ac.); 24 administratively endorsed units (1,948,161 ac.); and 100 other WSAs (2,388,106 ac.). | Within 100 miles of: 7 wilderness areas (897,383 ac.); 23 administratively endorsed wilderness areas (1,913,761 acres); and 96 other WSAs (2,359,151 acres). | Within 100 miles of: 7 wilderness areas (897,383 acres); 22 administratively endorsed WSAs (1,832,991 acres); and 94 other WSAs (1,913,040 acres). | Within 100 miles of: 7 wilderness areas (897,383 acres); 22 administratively endorsed WSAs (1,872,991 acres); and 93 other WSAs (1,894,200 acres). |
| | MANAGEABILITY | | Management difficult due to lack of natural barriers to prevent vehicle access and some outside influences. | Manageability constrained by configuration; potential valid existing mineral rights; and application for aqueduct purchase (valid existing rights). | Manageability difficult due to lack of natural barriers to prevent vehicle access, and application for aqueduct purchase (valid existing rights). | Manageability difficult due to scattered mining claims, non-public land and a lack of easily identifiable boundary features along portions of the unit. | Manageability ineffective due to unpatented mining claims in areas of high mineral potential, a cherrystem intrusion, a telephone line right-of-way (valid existing rights) and non-public land. |

TABLE 3-1 (Cont.)

# WILDERNESS PLANNING CRITERIA MATRIX

| | | | BODIE MOUNTAINS | BODIE | MASONIC MOUNTAINS | SLINKARD |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| WILDERNESS VALUES | WILDERNESS CHARACTERISTIC | SIZE | 23,360 acres | 15,455 acres | 6,600 acres | 6,350 acres |
| | | NATURALNESS | Fences, pipeline, primitive vehicle routes, an abandoned wood pole line, and active mining claims. Unit has retained its overall naturalness. | Fences, some primitive vehicle routes, a pipeline and wildlife habitat exclosures. Mineral exploration activity occurring. Unit has retained its overall naturalness. | Fenceline, sprine development, primitive vehicle routes, and mining claims. The area has retained its overall naturalness. | A few primitive vehicle ways and a fenceline. |
| | | SOLITUDE/ PRIMITIVE RECREATION | Size, variable terrain and physiorgraohic screening provide outstanding opportunities. Slight impact from outside influence of cherrystems, USA boundary roads, etc. | Outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation. Localized insect to solitude from mining activity around Paramount mining area. Large size, topographic and vegetative screening | Outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation. Ample vegetation, physiographic variation and large size. | Limited by long, narrow shape and ridgelike character. Some ruggedness and vegetation screening. |
| | MULTIPLE RESOURCE BENEFITS | SPECIAL FEATURES | Crucial fawning habitat for mule deer; crucial nesting areas for sage grouse; USFWS candidate species - Draba quadricostata, and Phacelia monoensis; area contains Sphagnum Peat Bog; historic mining remnants. | Historic mining remnants; Crucial fawning habitat for Mule deer & Pronghorn antelope; Crucial nesting area for sage grouse; USFWS candidate species-Draba quadricostata, Phacelia monoensis, Astragalus johannis-howellii. | Crucial fawning habitat for Pronghorn antelope; USFWS candidata species-Eriogonum ampullaceum; high archeuological significance. | Crucial deer winter habitat; crucial deer fawning habitat; Peregrine falcon nesting areas (USFWS sensitive species). |
| | | | Protection of wildlife habitat, sensitive species and habitat, & cultural resources. | Protection of wildlife habitat, sensitive species/habitat, and cultural resources. | Protection of wildlife habitat, sensitive species and habitat, and cultural resources. | Protection of wildlife habitat; protection of sensitive species and habitat. |
| | DIVERSITY | NATURAL SYSTEMS | Intermountain Sagebrush Province - Great Basin Sagebrush ecos. rep. by 2 wild. areas (7,020 ac.) & 6 admin. end. WSAs (638,010 ac.). Pin.-Jun. wood. rep. by 3 wild. areas (43,168 ac.) & 7 admin. end. WSAs (165,170 ac.). | Intermountain Sagebrush Province - Great Basin Sagebrush ecosystem represented by 2 wilderness areas (7,020 ac.) & 6 administratively endorsed WSAs (638,010 ac.). | Intermountain Sagebrush Province - Pinyon-Juniper Woodland represented by 3 wilderness aareas (43,168 ac.) & 7 administratively endorsed WSAs (165,170 ac.). | Sierran Forest Province-Pinyon-Juniper Woodland ecosystem rep. by 9 BLM WSAs (97,969 ac.) SPP - Mixed Conifer Forest ecosystem rep. by 12 wilderness areas (573,424 ac.) and 18 admin. endorsed WSAs (520,366 ac.). |
| | | OPPORTUNITIES NEAR POPULATION CENTERS | Within one day's drive of 3 SMSAs. | Within one day's drive of one SMSA. | Within one day's drive of one SMSA. | Within one day's drive of 5 SMSAs. |
| | | GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION | Within 100 miles of: 7 wilderness areas (897,383 ac.); 21 admin endorsed WSAs (1,082,301 ac.); and 90 other WSAs (1,737,173 ac.). | Within 100 miles of: 7 wilderness areas (897,383 ac.); 22 administratively endorsed WSAs (1,183,071 ac.); and 93 other WSAs (1,899,987 ac.). | Within 100 miles of: 7 wilderness areas (897,383 ac.); 19 administratively endorsed WSAs (1,022,392 ac.); and 88 other WSAs (1,865,217 ac.). | Within 100 miles of: 7 wilderness areas (897,383 ac.); 17 administratively endorsed WSAs (995,406 ac.); and 65 other WSAs (1,227,420 ac.). |
| MANAGE-ABILITY | | | Management difficult due to potential valid existing mineral rights, existing cherrystem intrusions, numerous non-public inholdings, and ongoing mineral exploration activity. | Management difficult due to potential valid existing mineral rights, the irregular configuration of the unit, existing cherrystem intrusions, and non-public land. | Manageability limited due to mining claims, moderate mineral potential, and non-public land. | Manageability limited due to existing mining claims, moderate potential for uranium, the unit's narrow, linear configuration, and its ridgeline character. |

SACATAR MEADOWS (CA-010-027)

Other Resource Values

| | |
|---|---|
| Topography | WSA consists of the western slopes of, and the lateral ridges extending west from, the Sierra Nevada Crest. The rocky ridges rise sharply from Sacatar and Scodie Meadows to elevations over 8,000 feet. |
| Vegetation | Vegetative cover is primarily pinyon pine with Western Juniper scattered throughout. Ponderosa Pine and Red Fir at higher elevations. Meadows are being degraded by invasion of brush species. |
| Grazing | Three grazing allotments, all of which are used in conjunction with private land. Thick vegetation and steep slopes cause most grazing to occur on privately owned lands. |
| Wildlife | Deer and upland game. Winter range for Monache-Walker Pass Deer Herd. Area has been managed cooperatively with California Department of Fish and Game since January 26, 1962, when Public Land Order No. 2594 established the Monache-Walker Pass National Cooperative Land and Wildlife Management Area. |
| Recreation | Some hunting, rockhounding, pinyon nut harvesting and ORV use along ways. |
| Cultural Resources | Cultural resource sensitivity is high. Lithic sites and a major Indian trade route in the area. |
| RTE/Sensitive Species | Potential for Phacelia novenmillensis and Astragalus subvestitus, which are candidates for the USFWS Threatened Species list. |
| Minerals/ Energy | Zero to low potential for oil and gas. Low mineral potential overall. Moderately favorable potential for uranium. Little interest in mining claim location. |

Wilderness Manageability

The WSA is protected on its eastern flank by CDCA WSA #157, which has been recommended as preliminarily suitable for wilderness. Private land "fingers" and the unit's narrow, irregular shape hinder its manageability. Fourteen miles of vehicle ways exist within the unit, providing access for potential vehicle encroachment. Management of the area for protection of its wilderness values would be feasible only when considered with adjoining CDCA WSA #157.

CERRO GORDO (CA-010-055)

Other Resource Values

| | |
|---|---|
| Topography | Located in the Inyo Mountains, the unit consists of steep, rugged mountainside terrain which rises to a ridgeline with peaks ranging to 9,400 feet. Steep canyon drainages transect the area. |
| Vegetation | Sparse in the lower elevations and at the southern end of the unit. Creosote occupies the lower slopes and changes to a shadscale dominated desert shrub community. The higher elevations and northern slopes support pinyon-juniper stands. |
| Grazing | Restricted from livestock grazing. |
| Wildlife | Provides yearlong mule deer habitat and has four springs with riparian zones utilized by wildlife. Desert bighorn infrequently drift into unit from their nearby winter range. |
| Recreation | Some primitive vehicle routes -- used for sightseeing and ORV activity. Area also used for hiking and backpacking. |
| Cultural Resources | Contains abandoned Saline Valley Salt Tram, which is on the National Register of Historic Places. Also remnants of past Cerro Gordo mining activity. |
| Lands | Portions of WSA withdrawn for watershed protection for the City of Los Angeles under the Act of 3/4/31 and under EO 6206. |
| Minerals/ Energy | No potential for metallic minerals in most of the area with small areas of low and high potential. Low to moderate potential for uranium and no potential for thorium. No potential for non-metallic minerals or oil and gas. Low potential for geothermal. Area also has unpatented mining claims. |

Wilderness Manageability

Manageability is enhanced due to natural barriers which would prevent vehicle access and boundaries which are easily defined by cultural and natural features except for the western side. Manageability is reduced in some areas with moderate to high mineral potential and existing mining claims. The outside sights and sounds of mining activity, WSA boundary roads, and the Owens Valley slightly affect manageability in localized areas.

## Other Resource Values

| | |
|---|---|
| Topography | Located in the Inyo Mountains, this unit consists of extremely rugged and steep mountainous terrain which slopes down toward Owens Valley. Summit elevations range to 11,000 feet. Numerous interior drainages exist within the area. |
| Vegetation | A shadscale dominated desert shrub community in the low to mid-elevation range with some pinyon-juniper at the higher elevations. The highly eroded, very steep northern portion of the unit supports little vegetation, but displays interesting combinations of colors, hues and erosional patterns. |
| Grazing | Restricted from livestock grazing. |
| Wildlife | Provides yearlong mule deer habitat and has ten springs with riparian zones which are utilized by wildlife. Four of these springs provide chukar habitat. Two canyons are raptor nesting sites. Desert bighorn infrequently drift into unit from their nearby winter range. |
| Recreation | Some primitive vehicle routes--used for sightseeing and hunting. Area also used for hiking and backpacking. |
| Cultural Resources | Contains the abandoned Saline Valley Salt Tram, which is on the National Register of Historic Places and the Pat Keyes Historic Mining Trail. |
| Sensitive Species | Population of Sclerocactus polyancistrus, a USFWS Candidate Species. Population and habitats of Batrachoceps campi, a BLM Protected Species. The unit has a subalpine forest which contains Pinus aristata and Pinus flexilis. This forest is considered a unique plant assemblage and carries BLM protection. Prairie falcon nesting sites also carry BLM protection. |
| Lands | Portions of WSA withdrawn for watershed protection for the City of Los Angeles under the Act of 3/4/31 and under EO 6206. One patented mining claim (72 acres). |
| Minerals/ Energy | No to low potential for metallic minerals in most of the area with small areas of moderate to high potential. Low to moderate potential for uranium and no potential for thorium. No potential for non-metallic minerals or oil and gas. Primarily low potential for geothermal with small areas of moderate potential. Area has unpatented mining claims. |

## Wilderness Manageability

Manageability is enhanced due to natural barriers which would prevent vehicle access, and boundaries which are easily defined by cultural and natural features, except for the western side. Manageability is also aided by the adjoining USFS Paiute Roadless Area and the adjoining CDCA Inyo Mountain WSA, which has been recommended preliminarily suitable for Wilderness designation. Manageability is decreased in areas of moderate to high mineral potential and existing mining claims (near Burgess Mine, Long John Canyon, Reward Mine, and other locations). The outside sights and sounds of mining activity, WSA boundary roads, and the Owens Valley slightly affect manageability.

INDEPENDENCE CREEK (CA-010-057)

Other Resource Values

| | |
|---|---|
| Topography | Broad rocky alluvial apron at base of Sierra Nevada Mountains. |
| Vegetation | Supports stands of blackbrush, saltbush, shadscale, and other mixed desert shrubs. |
| Grazing | Contains Alabama Hills Allotment and George Creek Allotment. Season of use for cattle runs from February 1 to May 31. Livestock driveway along east side of WSA mostly used by sheep during April and May. An allotment boundary fence exists in the WSA. |
| Wildlife | WSA contains stream with trout. Portion of WSA is Whitney Tule Elk winter habitat and is crucial winter habitat for Goodale deer herd. |
| Recreation | Some ORV use and hunting. |
| Cultural Resources | High to very high sensitivity. Lithic scatters and temporary camps in the area with potential for longer term residential areas with subsurface deposits. |
| Lands | Power transmission line right-of-way, water spreading channels. |
| Minerals | Very low potential for metallic minerals. Low potential for uranium, thorium, and geothermal. Moderate potential for non-metallic minerals. No potential for oil and gas. Some unpatented mining claims. |

Wilderness Manageability

Effective management would be very difficult. Lack of natural and cultural features along the east boundary are not conducive to effective boundary management; lack of natural barriers prevent shielding of outside sights and sounds (i.e., U.S. 395 and the County Corporation Yard near Manzanar). A transmission line right-of-way which bisects the unit, unpatented mining claims, and primitive vehicle routes contribute to ineffective management of the area as wilderness. The unit does not enhance manageability of the adjacent proposed John Muir Wilderness Addition due to the fairly narrow interface and its protruding character.

CRATER MOUNTAIN (CA-010-062)

Other Resource Values

| | |
|---|---|
| Topography | Volcanic cinder cone and associated lava flows on alluvium at base of Sierra Nevada Range. |
| Vegetation | Contains sparse vegetation of mixed desert shrubs. |
| Grazing | Contains the West Crater Mountain and East Crater Mountain Allotments. The season of use runs from December 1 to June 30. Livestock driveway along east side of both parcels; mostly used by sheep during April and May. WSA contains fence and pipeline. |
| Wildlife | Crucial winter habitat for Goodale Mule Deer Herd. Contains chukar habitat. |
| Recreation | Sightseeing (geological values), hunting. |
| Cultural Resources | Very high sensitivity. Site types include obsidian gathering areas, seasonal gathering camps, and a high occurence of seasonal hunting camps. The ethnographic village at Big Pine (tovowahamatü -- natural mound place) is probably named after Crater Mountain. The area is of special concern to local Native Americans. |
| Lands | One power site reserve; entire WSA withdrawn for watershed protection for the City of Los Angeles. |
| Minerals | Moderate potential for geothermal resources. Low potential for non-metallic minerals, uranium and thorium. No oil and gas. Numerous unpatented mining claims and mill sites exist in the north and south portions of the WSA. Low potential for metallic minerals. |

Wilderness Manageability

Effective management as wilderness would not be practical. Although availability of natural and cultural features are conducive to effective boundary management, the predominance of adjacent outside sights and sounds, including powerlines, roads, the Big Pine community, and mining activity; a power site reserve (valid existing rights); and existing mining claims and mill sites contribute to ineffective management of the area as wilderness. The physiographic nature of the mountain combined with its lack of vegetative screening, leaves it highly vulnerable to all outside sights and sounds.

SYMMES CREEK (CA-010-064)

Other Resource Values

| | |
|---|---|
| Topography | Consists of broad, gently sloping, rocky alluvial fan dissected by two creeks. |
| Vegetation | Supports stands of mixed desert shrubs such as saltbush-bursage associations on the valley floor, through the spiny hopsage-ephedra association, to the big sage-bitterbrush dominated upper slopes. |
| Grazing | Contains the Independence allotment. Season of use for cattle runs from April 1 to June 30. Livestock driveway runs along east side of WSA - mostly used by sheep during April and May. |
| Wildlife | WSA includes Symmes and Shepherd Creeks which contain trout. Fish habitat structures in Symmes Creek. Creeks are stocked. WSA is in Whitney Tule Elk winter habitat. |
| Recreation | Fishing on Symmes and Shepherd Creeks. Some ORV use and hunting. |
| Cultural Resources | High sensitivity. Lithic sites, temporary camps, and potential longer term camps with subsurface deposits in the area. |
| Lands | Three apiary sites; three power site reserves; entire WSA withdrawn for watershed protection for the City of Los Angeles; 640 acres of private land in WSA; and powerline transmission right-of-way. Contains water spreading facilities. |
| Minerals | Very low potential for metallic minerals. Low potential for uranium, thorium, and geothermal. Moderate potential for non-metallic minerals. No potential for oil and gas. Some unpatented mining claims. |

Wilderness Manageability

Effective management would be very difficult. Lack of natural and cultural features along the east side are not conducive to effective boundary management; lack of natural barriers within the WSA prevent shielding of outside sights and sounds such as U.S. 395, Independence, Symmes Creek Campground and water spreading facilities. A transmission line right-of-way which bisects the WSA, Power Site Reserves, unpatented mining claims, primitive vehicle routes, apiary sites and a cherrystem intrusion contribute to ineffective management of the area as wilderness.

CHIDAGO CANYON (CA-010-079)

Other Resource Values

| | |
|---|---|
| Topography | Rolling tablelands with a gentle, downward slope toward the east. The western portion of the unit culminates near the top of a narrow, north-south trending ridge. Chidago Canyon deeply incises the area, running in a southeasterly direction near the southern border. Volcanic terraces, rounded hills and Chidago Canyon contribute to the varied scenery of the WSA. Scenic views of Eastern Sierra and White Mountains. |
| Vegetation | Supports a uniform composition of mostly Great Basin shrubs, such as spiny hopsage, shadscale, ephedra, and dalea. |
| Grazing | WSA within the Hammil Valley cattle allotment. Cattle graze from 10/15 to 6/15. A livestock driveway runs along the eastern edge of the WSA and is used mostly by sheep during June. WSA contains a pipeline and troughs. |
| Wildlife | Provides habitat for chukar. Part of winter habitat for Casa Diablo mule deer herd. Chidago Canyon provides raptor and eagle nesting habitat (both are sensitive species) and Red Rock Canyon provides raptor nesting habitat. Three bird guzzler facilities in WSA. |
| Recreation | Some hunting and light ORV use. Moderate motorcycle use on established trail. |
| Cultural Resources | Area used for archaeological research and observation by public and scientific community. Moderate to very high sensitivity. Many camps with rock rings and lithic scatters. Expressed concern about the area by the Bishop Paiute Elders. |
| Lands | Small portion of WSA is withdrawn for watershed protection for the City of Los Angeles. One of the petroglyph sites has been withdrawn from multiple resource use. Two non-public owned parcels (680 acres) exist. Pending application by the City of Los Angeles with rights to purchase a very small portion (approx. 10 acres) of the WSA. |
| Minerals/ Energy | Area has moderate potential for metallic minerals, very low potential for uranium and thorium, no potential for oil and gas, very low potential for non-metallic minerals, moderate potential for geothermal. |

Wilderness Manageability

Management would be limited due to lack of natural barriers preventing motorized vehicle access, ample availability of primitive vehicle routes north of Chidago Canyon, utilization of and access needs for non-public inholdings, moderate potential for metallic minerals, and an aqueduct application with rights to purchase land at the southern tip of the WSA.

FISH SLOUGH (CA-010-080)

Other Resource Values

| | |
|---|---|
| Topography | A series of volcanic terraces and abrupt cliffs. Numerous canyons and drainages dissect the eastern portion of the unit. Toward the western edge, though, the topography is more gentle and rolling. Tableland features are fairly unique. Outstanding views of Eastern Sierra and White Mountains. |
| Vegetation | Supports a uniform composition of mostly Great Basin shrubs, such as spiny hopsage, shadscale, ephedra, dalea and cholla. |
| Grazing | Contains the Volcanic Tablelands Allotment. Sheep graze this area from 5/1 to 6/15. A livestock driveway runs along the eastern edge of the WSA and is used mostly by sheep during June. |
| Wildlife | Area provides portion of winter habitat for Casa Diablo mule deer herd. |
| Recreation | Light ORV use occurring. |
| Cultural Resources | Moderate to very high sensitivity. Area used for archaeological research and observation by the public and scientific community. Many camps with rock rings and lithic scatters and expressed concern for the area by the Bishop Paiute Elders. |
| Lands | A small portion of the WSA is withdrawn for watershed protection for the City of Los Angeles. Corner of Power Site Reserve (30 acres) with valid existing rights extends into WSA. One parcel of non-public land (640 acres) exists in WSA. The City of Los Angeles has a pending application with rights to purchase small pieces of land (approx. 150 acres) within the WSA. |
| Minerals/ Energy | Area has low potential for metallic minerals, no potential for oil and gas, very low potential for non-metallic minerals, low potential for uranium and thorium, moderate potential for geothermal. |

Wilderness Manageability

Management would be slightly hindered due to potential needs for access and utilization of private inholding (parcel currently is not accessible by road and has not been used), lack of natural barriers (to prevent vehicle encroachment) along portions of the boundary, development of the Power Site Reserve which extends into the WSA, and an aqueduct application with rights to purchase land (valid existing rights).

VOLCANIC TABLELANDS (CA-010-081)

Other Resource Values

| | |
|---|---|
| Topography | Relatively flat with some low, rolling hills as well as occasional volcanic cliffs. General character is one of subdued relief with broad, tableland expanses gently sloping from northwest to southeast. Highly scenic views of Eastern Sierra and White Mountains. |
| Vegetation | Consists mostly of low shrubs such as spiny hopsage, shadscale, ephedra, dalea, as well as intermixed annual plants. |
| Grazing | Contains Volcanic Tablelands and Chalk Bluff Allotments. Cattle graze from 10/1 to 5/15. Sheep graze from 5/1 to 6/15. A livestock driveway runs along the east side of the WSA and is used mostly by sheep during June. |
| Recreation | Light ORV use occurring. |
| Cultural Resources | Medium to high sensitivity. Potential camps and lithic scatters. |
| Lands | Small portions of WSA are withdrawn for watershed protection for the City of Los Angeles. Two Power Site Reserves are located within the WSA (valid existing rights). |
| Minerals/ Energy | Area has low potential for metallic minerals, no potential for oil and gas, very low potential for non-metallic minerals, low potential for uranium and thorium, moderate potential for geothermal. |

Wilderness Manageability

Management would be limited by lack of natural barriers to prevent vehicle access; vulnerability to outside sights and sounds such as the Bishop community; potential access and utilization of adjacent private lands which intrude into the WSA; and potential for power site reserve development.

CASA DIABLO (CA-010-082)

Other Resource Values

| | |
|---|---|
| Topography | Series of volcanic terraces in the south to rocky and rugged hills in the western and northern portions. |
| Vegetation | Consists primarily of low shrubs, such as spiny hopsage, cholla, and juniper in upland areas. |
| Grazing | Contains Volcanic Tablelands Allotment; sheep graze from 5/1 to 6/15. |
| Wildlife | Area provides portion of winter habitat for Casa Diablo mule deer herd. |
| Recreation | Some deer hunting and light ORV use. |
| Cultural Resources | Medium to high sensitivity. Potential camps and lithic scatters. |
| Lands | A power site reserve with valid existing rights exists in southern portion of WSA. |
| Minerals/ Energy | Area has moderate potential for metallic minerals, no potential for oil and gas, very low potential for non-metallic minerals, low potential for uranium and thorium, moderate potential for geothermal. Unpatented mining claims in center of WSA. Mineral potential for silver and gold is high on Casa Diablo Mountain (adjacent Forest Service land). Numerous mining claims and associated surface disturbances exist on Casa Diablo Mountain. |

Wilderness Manageability

Effective management would be difficult due to potential development of the power site reserve, potential for development of mining claims in areas with moderate to high potential for metallic minerals. In addition, a general lack of natural barriers to prevent vehicle encroachment hinder management of the area as wilderness. A majority of the adjacent Forest Service portion contains high potential for silver and gold with numerous claims and past mining activity located on Casa Diablo Mountain.

EXCELSIOR (CA-010-088)

Other Resource Values

| | |
|---|---|
| Topography | Consists of very gently southwest sloping valley fill deposits of the ancient Lake Russell. Small volcanic bluffs in the southeast corner. |
| Vegetation | Scattered Juniper on the slopes and mixed shrubs on the valley floor. |
| Grazing | Contains the Mono Sand Flat Allotment. The season of use runs from December 1 to May 31, all cattle use. |
| Wildlife | Winter habitat for wild horses. |
| Recreation | A few primitive vehicle routes and some rabbit hunting. |
| Cultural Resources | Moderate to high sensitivity. May contain temporary camps and lithic scatters. |
| Sensitive Plants | Contains populations of and habitat for Astragalus pseudiodanthus. This species appears on the USFWS Candidate Species list. |
| Vegetative Products | Contains 4,300 acres of Juniper which could be harvested for wood products; 880 acres are accessible. |
| Lands | Entire WSA withdrawn for watershed protection for the City of Los Angeles. |
| Minerals | Low potential for metallic minerals; no potential for uranium and thorium, oil and gas, non-metallic minerals; and moderate potential for geothermal resources. |

Wilderness Manageability

Manageability would be difficult due to lack of natural barriers to prevent vehicle access and lack of shielding of outside sights and sounds such as the transmission line on the northeast boundary and the adjacent Highway 167.

GRANITE MOUNTAIN (CA-010-090)

Other Resource Values

| | |
|---|---|
| Topography | Ranges from rugged granitic mountains, through rolling basalt hills with closed basins, to the gently westward sloping valley fill deposits of ancient Lake Russell. Small portion of Adobe Valley in southeast corner. |
| Vegetation | Upper elevations forested with Pinyon and Juniper; lower hills and valleys dominated by sagebrush and other mixed shrubs. |
| Grazing | WSA within four allotments. Mono Sand Flat Allotment season of use runs from December 1 to May 31; all cattle use. Mono Lake Allotment season of use runs from July 1 to October 15; all sheep use. Mono Mills-Dorn Allotment season of use runs from July 1 to October 15; all sheep use. Granite Mountain Allotment season of use runs from July 1 to October 15; cattle or sheep use. WSA contains fences, a pipeline, and a spring exclosure. |
| Wildlife | Area contains two deer migration corridors, habitat for pronghorn antelope, and wild horse winter habitat. Indian Spring is part of yearlong chukar habitat and Adobe Range area is part of yearlong Sage Grouse habitat. Contains raptor nesting areas. Three springs with riparian zones are the only surface fresh water sources in the local area. |
| Recreation | Light to moderate ORV use in the western half. Numerous primitive vehicle routes in the area. Bird watching occurs near Mono Lake shoreline. Some rabbit hunting and deer hunting. Some visitation of remnants of the Bodie-Mono Mills Railroad. |
| Cultural Resources | Moderate to very high sensitivity. Portions of historic Bodie-Mono Mills Railroad. Seasonal Native American camps for hunting, gathering, obsidian sources, and pinyon nut collecting. |
| Sensitive Plants | Presence of Astragalus pseudiodanthus and potential habitat for Eriogonum ampullaceum; both on the USFWS Candidate Species list. |
| Vegetative Products | Contains 12,000 acres of Juniper, which could be harvested for wood products; 1,100 acres are accessible. |
| Lands | Portions of WSA withdrawn for watershed protection for the City of Los Angeles under the Act of 3/4/31, withdrawn for municipal water supply under EO 5631 and for classification under EO 5843. The City of Los Angeles has a pending application with rights to purchase approximately 400 acres of land in the northwest portion of the WSA. Two non-public parcels within the WSA total 200 acres. A Cal Trans Material Site right-of-way exists along the south boundary. |

| | |
|---|---|
| Minerals/ Energy | Mostly low potential for metallic minerals with small areas of moderate and no potential. Mostly low or no potential for uranium and thorium with moderate potential in the extreme southern portion. Moderate potential for sand and gravel in the closed basins with no potential in the majority of the WSA. No potential for oil and gas. High potential for geothermal resources in western 1/3 with moderate potential in the remainder of the WSA. Pending geothermal lease applications. The western half classified as a Known Geothermal Resource Area (KGRA). |

## Wilderness Manageability

Manageability would be constrained by the configuration of the area, existing mining claims with moderate potential for metallic minerals, expansion of mineral material site (valid existing right), application for aqueduct purchase (valid existing rights), and potential access and utilization of non-public inholdings. Natural barriers are available to screen outside sights and sounds and non-conforming land uses. WSA boundaries are easily identifiable.

WALFORD SPRINGS (CA-010-092)

Other Resource Values

| | |
|---|---|
| Topography | Consists of very gently southwest sloping valley fill deposits, primarily lacustrine and sand dune deposits, of the ancient Lake Russell. |
| Vegetation | Low, dense shrubs including big sage, saltbush, and annual grasses. A Juniper grove occurs in the northwest corner of the unit. |
| Grazing | Contains part of the Mono Sand Flat Allotment. Season of use runs from December 1 to May 31, all cattle use. A fenceline is located in the unit. |
| Wildlife | Spring, summer and fall habitat for pronghorn antelope and winter habitat for wild horses. |
| Recreation | Light to moderate ORV use in the west half and a few primitive vehicle routes. |
| Cultural Resources | Moderate sensitivity. Some temporary camps and lithic scatters. |
| Sensitive Plants | Contains populations of and habitat for Astragalus pseudiodanthus, which is on the USFWS Candidate Species list. |
| Vegetative Products | Contains 1,600 acres of Juniper which could be harvested for wood products. 500 acres are accessible. |
| Lands | Entire WSA withdrawn for watershed protection for the City of Los Angeles; contains a 160 acre parcel of non-public land. The City of Los Angeles has a pending application with rights to purchase approximately 140 acres of land in the southwest corner of the WSA. |
| Minerals/ Energy | Low potential for metallic minerals, uranium and thorium; moderate to high potential for geothermal resources; and no potential for non-metallic minerals and oil and gas. The west half of the WSA is in a KGRA with pending geothermal lease applications. |

Wilderness Manageability

Management would be difficult due to lack of natural barriers to prevent vehicle access, the pending land purchase by the City of Los Angeles, and access and utilization of non-public inholdings.

Other Resource Values

| | |
|---|---|
| Topography | Consists of steep, rounded volcanic hills dissected by a few intermittent drainages. |
| Vegetation | Perennial grasses dominate meadow areas while quaking aspen occupy many drainages. Pinyon and juniper dot many of the higher slopes and hilltops, adding color as well as vegetative variety to the scenery. Big sage and bitterbrush are also prevalent. |
| Grazing | WSA within Rancheria Gulch Allotment, Little Mormon Allotment, and Mormon Ranch Allotment. Sheep grazing occurring. |
| Wildlife | Considered part of deer and Pronghorn Antelope habitat, as well as a crucial deer fawning area. Containing yearlong sage grouse habitat, the area also provides sage grouse strutting grounds and crucial nesting habitat. Existing meadows, springs, aspen groves, and streams with associated riparian zones are heavily utilized by wildlife. Some localized impacts to these areas by cattle grazing. |
| Vegetative Products | Contains 3,500 acres of Pinyon-Juniper which could be used for wood products or pinyon nut harvesting. Limited access is available. |
| Recreation | Contains some primitive vehicle routes. Snowmobile activity occurs in area, mostly by local individuals. Area is very popular for sage grouse hunting. Some deer hunting occurs in drainages. |
| Sensitive Species | Presence of Draba quadricostata and Phacelia monoensis, which are on the USFWS candidate species list. |
| Cultural Resources | Moderate to high sensitivity. Seasonal hunting, gathering, and pinyon nut collecting camps; lithic scatters. |
| Lands | Major portion of WSA withdrawn for watershed protection for City of Los Angeles. Small portion of WSA withdrawn for classification and in aid of legislation. Contains approximately 640 acres of non-public land. |
| Minerals/ Energy | Low potential for metallic minerals and uranium. No potential for thorium and non-metallic minerals, and oil and gas. High potential for geothermal resources; very small portion of WSA has geothermal lease applications pending. Scattered mining claims are located in the WSA. |

Wilderness Manageability

Manageability would be difficult due to a lack of easily identifiable boundary features along some portions of the unit; access and utilization of non-public land; scattered mining claims in the WSA, and related motor access needs.

MT. BIEDEMAN (CA-010-095)

Other Resource Values

| | |
|---|---|
| Topography | Dominated by steep, rocky and rounded hills with summit elevations ranging from approximately 8,000 to 9,022 feet. Several drainages dissect the unit. |
| Vegetation | Consists of pinyon-juniper associations in upland areas with a dense understory of shrubs, including big sage. |
| Grazing | WSA within Goat Ranch Allotment, Rancheria Gulch Allotment, Potato Peak Allotment, and Bodie Mountain Allotment. Sheep and cattle grazing occurring between June and November. Contains fencelines. |
| Wildlife | Considered part of deer and pronghorn antelope habitat, as well as a crucial deer fawning area. Contains yearlong sage grouse habitat; also provides sage grouse strutting grounds and crucial nesting habitat. Existing meadows, springs, aspen groves, and streams, with associated riparian zones, heavily utilized by wildlife. Some localized impact to these areas by cattle grazing. |
| Sensitive Plants | Contains populations of Draba quadricostata and Phacelia monoensis, which are on the USFWS Candidate Species list. |
| Vegetative Products | Contains 2,300 acres of Pinyon-Juniper which could be used for wood products or pinyon nut harvesting. Limited access available. |
| Recreation | Contains some primitive vehicle routes. Snowmobile activity occurs in area, mostly by local individuals. Area is popular for deer and sage grouse hunting. Historical sightseeing occurs in Bodie Bowl portion of WSA, associated with Bodie State Historic Park. |
| Cultural Resources | High to very high sensitivity. Bodie-related mining remnants. Native American temporary camps, especially pinyon camps. Local Native American concern for access to pinyon areas. |
| Lands | Portion of WSA withdrawn for watershed protection for City of Los Angeles. A small portion of WSA withdrawn for classification and in aid of legislation. Contains approximately 80 acres of non-public land. A 200' telephone line right-of-way is located in the WSA. |
| Minerals/ Energy | Low potential for metallic minerals with high potential in northeast portion (Bodie Bowl) of WSA. Dense staking of mineral claims in this high potential area. Low potential for uranium. No potential for non-metallic minerals, thorium, oil and gas. Moderate to high potential for geothermal resources. Pending geothermal lease applications exist in a small portion of the WSA. |

Wilderness Manageability

Manageability as wilderness would be very difficult due to a lack of easily identifiable boundaries along the southern edge; high metallic mineral potential with dense staking of mineral claims in the northeast portion of the WSA; a cherrystem intrusion requiring motorized vehicle access; possible development of an existing telephone line right-of-way; and potential access and utilization of non-public land.

## Other Resource Values

| | |
|---|---|
| Topography | Rolling to steep and rocky hillsides. Volcanic in nature; contains steep canyons, interior drainages, and some meadows. Hilltop elevations range to 10,000 feet. The central portion contains Big Alkali - a volcanic caldera. |
| Vegetation | Supports grasses, bitterbrush, and big sage. Pinyon-juniper prevalent in west portion. Drainages support stands of aspen. |
| Grazing | WSA within Travertine Hills, Aurora Canyon, Potato Peak and Mormon Ranch Allotments. Cattle and sheep graze between May and November. Pipelines and fences are in the unit. |
| Wildlife | Considered spring, summer, and fall deer and Pronghorn Antelope habitat; crucial deer fawning habitat. Clark Canyon supports Rainbow Trout. Sage Grouse yearlong habitat; contains strutting grounds/crucial nesting habitat. Contains Mono Lake/East Walker Mule Deer migration corridor and also waterfowl habitat. Some meadows and aspen groves receiving localized grazing impacts. |
| Sensitive Species | Presence of Phacelia monoensis and Draba quadricostata and potential habitat for Streptanthus oliganthus, which are on the USFWS Candidate Species list. Also contains a Sphagnum Peat Bog protected by Bishop Resource Area interim policy. |
| Vegetative Products | Contains 16,300 acres of Pinyon-Juniper and 80 acres of aspen; potential for wood products or pinyon nut harvesting. Limited vehicle access; some pinyon nut harvesting by local individuals. |
| Recreation | Contains some primitive vehicle routes. Snowmobile activity occurs in area, mostly by local individuals. Area very popular for Sage Grouse hunting. Deer hunting occurs in drainages. |
| Cultural Resources | High to very high sensitivity. Contains historic values associated with Bodie State Park and archaeological sites. |
| Lands | A telephone right-of-way is located in the WSA. Contains approximately 2,120 acres of non-public land. Portion of area withdrawn for classification and in aid of legislation under EO 5843. |
| Minerals/ Energy | High potential for metallic minerals in Cinnabar Canyon area; low elsewhere. No to low potential for non-metallic minerals, Uranium or Thorium. No oil and gas potential. Primarily high geothermal potential with moderate potential in northeast corner. Numerous mining claims in north and southwest portion of WSA. Homestake Mining Co. and U.S. Steel conducting active exploration activity in Cinnabar Canyon area. Substantial portion of WSA contains pending geothermal lease applications. |

## Wilderness Manageability

Manageability would be impractical due to the numerous, scattered nonpublic lands (some require access); the cherrystem intrusions in Cinnabar Canyon and Warm Springs; high potential for metallic minerals in Cinnabar Canyon; existing mining claims; on-going mineral exploration activity; and potential utilization of the telephone line right-of-way.

## Other Resource Values

| | |
|---|---|
| Topography | Dominated by rocky, rounded hills with hilltop elevations ranging to 9,200 feet. Several drainages. Beauty Peak Plateau and Dry Lakes area located in the northeastern corner of the unit. |
| Vegetation | Contains Great Basin shrubs such as big sage, low sage, bitterbrush. Pinyon-Juniper communities located on upland slopes and canyon walls, and aspen line drainages. |
| Grazing | WSA within Bodie Mountain Allotment. Cattle graze from 6/1 to 10/15. Pipelines and fences in unit. Some localized impacts to meadows and spring areas by cattle grazing. |
| Wildlife | Considered spring, summer and fall deer and Pronghorn Antelope habitat, as well as crucial deer and pronghorn fawning habitat. Sage Grouse yearlong habitat; contains strutting grounds and crucial nesting habitat. Also contains waterfowl habitat. |
| Sensitive Species | Presence of Draba quadricostata, Astragalus johannis-howellii, and Phacelia monoensis, which are on the USFWS Candidate Species list. Contains a Sphagnum Peat Bog protected by Bishop Resource Area interim policy. |
| Vegetative Products | Contains 3,800 acres of Pinyon-Juniper and 640 acres of aspen; potential for wood products or pinyon nut harvesting. Limited vehicle access. |
| Recreation | Some primitive vehicle routes. Some snowmobile activity - mostly by local individuals. Area very popular for Sage Grouse hunting. Deer hunting occurs in drainages. Some rockhounding activity, especially around Beauty Peak/Dry Lakes plateau. Historical sightseeing occurs in Bodie Bowl portion - associated with Bodie State Historic Park. |
| Cultural Resources | Moderate to very high sensitivity. Southern portion of WSA (Bodie Bowl) associated with Bodie State Historic Park. Contains archaeological sites (i.e., high density of temporary camps and lithic quarries). |
| Lands | Portion of WSA withdrawn for classification and in aid of legislation under E.O. 5843. Contains approximately 360 acres of non-public land. |
| Minerals/ Energy | Moderate potential for metallic minerals in most of the area with high potential in extreme southern portion and low potential in southwest quarter and extreme northern tip of WSA. No potential for non-metallic minerals and oil and gas. No to low potential for Uranium and Thorium. Moderate potential for geothermal resources; a portion of WSA contains pending geothermal lease applications. Dense staking of metallic mineral claims in Paramount Mine area and western portion of WSA. |

## Wilderness Manageability

Manageability would be very difficult due to the irregular configuration of the WSA, existing cherrystem intrusions, access and utilization of non-public land, moderate to high potential for metallic minerals, existing mining claims, and on-going exploration activity associated with these claims.

MASONIC MOUNTAIN (CA-010-102)

Other Resource Values

| | |
|---|---|
| Topography | Characterized by portions of the Bodie Hills and gentle to moderately rolling hills that slope toward Bridgeport Valley. Hilltop elevations range to 9,000 feet. |
| Vegetation | Includes sagebrush, pinyon, juniper, shrubs and annual grasses. |
| Grazing | WSA within Aurora Canyon allotment. Cattle graze between 6/15 to 9/30. Portion of WSA is unallotted and used as a livestock driveway. Unit contains fenceline and spring development. |
| Wildlife | Considered spring, summer and fall habitat for deer and Pronghorn Antelope; crucial deer and Pronghorn fawning habitat. The area contains Sage Grouse habitat, strutting grounds, and crucial nesting habitat. Some localized impact to springs by cattle grazing. |
| Sensitive Species | Potential habitat for Streptanthus oliganthus and Phacelia monoensis. Presence of Eriogonum ampullaceum. These species are on the USFWS Candidate Species list. |
| Vegetative Products | Contains 4,100 acres of Pinyon-Juniper; potential for various wood products. Limited vehicle access. Pinyon nut harvesting by local individuals. |
| Recreation | Contains some primitive vehicle routes. Snowmobile activity occurs in the area, mostly by local individuals. Deer hunting activity. |
| Cultural Resources | Moderate to very high sensitivity. Area contains archaeological sites such as temporary camps (pinyon and hunting) and lithic quarries. |
| Lands | Contains approximately 120 acres of non-public land. |
| Minerals/ Energy | Low to moderate potential for metallic minerals. No to low potential for Uranium and Thorium. No potential for oil and gas. Geothermal resource potential is primarily moderate with high potential in the southwest corner of the WSA. Pending geothermal lease applications in the southwest portion of the WSA. A few mining claims located in eastern portion. |

Wilderness Manageability

Management of the area as wilderness would be limited by access and utilization of non-public land and moderate mineral potential in areas of unpatented mining claims.

SLINKARD (CA-010-105/NV-030-531)

Other Resource Values

| | |
|---|---|
| Topography | A north-south trending mountain range dissected by drainages and canyons. The east slope is rugged and steep, while the west slope is more gentle and moderate. |
| Vegetation | Supports stands of pinyon-juniper, white fir, aspen, and jeffrey pine. Also Great Basin shrubs such as big sage and bitterbrush. |
| Grazing | WSA within Slinkard and Bagley Valley Allotments. Sheep and cattle graze area from May to October. |
| Wildlife | The area is considered spring, summer and fall habitat for deer as well as crucial winter habitat and crucial deer fawning area. The area also contains raptor nesting area. |
| Sensitive Species | Contains Peregrine Falcon nesting habitat. Listed on USFWS Sensitive Species list. |
| Vegetative Products | Contains 2,810 acres of pinyon-juniper and 300 acres of white fir and aspen; potential for wood products or pinyon nut harvesting. Limited vehicle access. |
| Recreation | Contains some primitive vehicle routes. Some snowmobiling activity on west slope. Light deer hunting occurring. |
| Cultural Resources | Medium to high sensitivity. Contains temporary hunting camps. |
| Minerals/ Energy | Low to no potential for metallic minerals. Moderate potential for uranium. Moderate potential for geothermal resources. No potential for non-metallic minerals, oil and gas. Some unpatented mining claims in T. 9N., R. 21E., Secs. 12 and 13. |

Wilderness Manageability

Manageability would be extremely limited due to moderate potential for uranium resources, and the unit's very narrow, linear shape. Its ridgelike character renders it highly vulnerable to adjacent or outside influences, as well as to potential encroachment of incompatible uses. In addition, the existence of mining claims in areas of moderate uranium potential could affect manageability.

# Chapter 4

# Environmental Consequences

# CHAPTER IV

# ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

## INTRODUCTION

Any WSA found to be suitable for wilderness and so designated by Congress will result in management within a discrete range of actions defined by the Bureau's Wilderness Management Policy (1981) and a subsequent Wilderness Management Plan. Once suitability recommendations are acted upon, management will follow with the dominant objective being protection of the area's wilderness resources.

Therefore, recommending a WSA or portion thereof as suitable should be interpreted to mean that BLM feels that the wilderness resource is of higher value than competing resource uses and the wilderness values can be best protected, utilized, and managed as a wilderness area. The "Implications of Wilderness Designation" portion of Chapter II indicates that an agency's discretion in managing a parcel of land will be somewhat limited under wilderness designation. Generally, vegetation manipulation, introduction of exotic plants and animals and certain recreational activities (e.g., trail bike riding) and services (e.g., flush toilets) are precluded. Pre-suppression and post-suppression fire control techniques may be utilized if recommended in a fire management plan (FMP). The recommendation will be made utilizing Congressional directives to consider public safety and the protection of an area's wilderness qualities.

A WSA, or portion thereof, is recommended as nonsuitable for designation when it has been determined that the area in question is best suited for management and use other than wilderness to allow for broader utilization of resources. These areas permit the use of management techniques that are prohibited in wilderness areas. Implicit to a nonsuitability recommendation is that the wilderness qualities of an area presently may be impaired to a degree that would preclude reconsideration of wilderness suitability in the next land use planning effort. Whereas other resource decisions may be modified as MFP amendments, this may not be possible for wilderness and may result in a lost opportunity for exclusive wilderness use.

The impact analysis will concentrate on those resources described in Chapter III which will be subject to the most significant impacts. Resources which will not be affected will not be addressed. Additionally, where impacts on resources were found to be similar to those described for earlier alternatives, the preceding analysis has been referenced. In some cases, limitations on impact analysis occurred due to a lack of data or where comparisons with previous studies were not appropriate. In such instances, knowledge of the area and professional judgment were used to identify potential impacts.

The following table (Table 4-1) portrays the impacts of each alternative on significant resources for each individual WSA.

TABLE 4-1
ALTERNATIVE I: PROPOSED ACTION

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Sacatar Meadows CA-010-027 (Suitable: 11,447 acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Area protected by some natural barriers and common boundary with CDCA proposed wilderness. | Wilderness value would be maintained. |
| | Recreation | Hunting/ Rockhounding | Reduced use due to restricted vehicle access. | Some loss of recreation opportunity. |
| | | ORV Use | 10 miles of vehicle routes closed. | Some loss of recreation opportunity. |
| | Vegetative Resources | Grazing | Present use would continue. | No impact. |
| | | | Three spring developments permitted. | Slight impact to long-term naturalness. Better protection of spring site. Some benefit to wildlife. |
| | | | Proposed vegetation manipulation to increase cattle numbers would be prohibited. | Maximum stocking rate not realized. |
| | | Watershed | Restoration actions allowed if serious situation exists. | Wilderness values would be maintained. |
| | | Pinyon Nut Collection | Reduced use due to restricted vehicle access. | Increased use and impacts on adjacent areas. |
| | Wildlife | Improvements | Motorized access for construction & maintenance of improvements under NCLWMA designation allowed when no other means are practical. | Potential constraints and inconvenience. Benefit to wildlife. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE I: PROPOSED ACTION

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Sacatar Meadows Suitable (Cont.) | Land Uses | Access Development | Obtain access easement in Sacatar Canyon. | Increased impacts at access points. Better access for wilderness-oriented users. |
| | Minerals/ Energy | Development | No new claims or leases after Dec. 31, 1983. | Minimal impact anticipated due to low mineral and energy development potential. |
| Sacatar Meadows CA-010-027 (Nonsuitable: 6,728 acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Wilderness values will not be protected under the NWPS. | Potential degradation of wilderness values due to vehicle use and adjoining private land activities. |
| | Recreation | Hunting/ Rockhounding | Vehicle uses permitted. | Some degradation of naturalness and solitude. |
| | | ORV Use | ORV use permitted. | Some degradation of naturalness and solitude. |
| | Vegetative Resources | Grazing | Present use would continue. Methods of improvement not limited by wilderness policy. Motorized equipment allowed. | Some degradation of naturalness and solitude where improvements occur. Prescribed burning would aid fire-dependent ecosystem. |
| | | Watershed | Methods of improvement not limited by wilderness policy. Motorized equipment allowed. | Short-term impacts to solitude, but overall watershed improvement. |
| | | Pinyon Nut Collection | Vehicle use allowed. | Some seasonal degradation of naturalness and solitude. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE I: PROPOSED ACTION

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Sacatar Meadows Nonsuitable (Cont.) | Wildlife | Improvements | Motorized access for construction & maintenance of improvements under NCLWMA designation allowed. | Slight localized impact to solitude and naturalness. Benefit to wildlife. |
| | Minerals/ Energy | Development | Open to mineral entry and development. | Possible degradation of wilderness values where development occurs. Low overall mineral development potential. |
| Cerro Cordo CA-010-055 (Suitable: 14,222 Acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Manageability limited by potential development of valid existing mineral rights. Enhanced by rugged terrain which deters outside influences and encroachment. | Possible localized degradation of wilderness values. |
| | Recreation | ORV Use/ Sightseeing | Vehicle use prohibited. | Loss of some recreation use opportunities. |
| | Minerals/ Energy | Geothermal Development | Development prohibited. | Loss of low geothermal potential. |
| | | Mineral Development | No new claims after 12/31/83. Potential development of mining claims in moderate mineral value areas (potential valid existing rights). | Loss of low mineral potential areas and areas of moderate uranium potential. Possible degradation of naturalness and solitude where development occurs. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE I: PROPOSED ACTION

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cerro Gordo Suitable (Cont.) | Cultural | Interpretive | Interpretive facilities of Saline Valley Salt Tram prohibited within suitable boundaries. | Loss of interpretive opportunities within suitable boundaries. |
| Cerro Gordo CA-010-055 (Nonsuitable: 1,880 acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Wilderness values not protected under NWPS. | Potential degradation of wilderness values due to mineral and geothermal development, interpretive facilities, and motorized vehicle use. |
| | Recreation | ORV Use/ Sightseeing | Vehicle use for all recreational activities allowed. | Slight degradation of naturalness and solitude from motorized vehicle use. |
| | Minerals | Geothermal Development | Development permitted. | Possible loss of wilderness values where development occurs. |
| | | Mineral Development | Development permitted. | Possible loss of wilderness values where development occurs. |
| | Cultural | Interpretive Opportunities | Interpretive facilities for Saline Valley Salt Tram permitted. | Slight loss of naturalness. Interpretive/educational benefit. |
| Southern Inyo CA-010-056 (Suitable: 27,420 acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Management limited by potential valid existing mineral rights. Management enhanced by adjoining CDCA wilderness recommendation and rugged topography which screens outside influences. | Possible degradation of wilderness values. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE I: PROPOSED ACTION

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Southern Inyo Suitable (Cont.) | Recreation | Motorized Vehicle Use/Sightseeing/ Hunting | Vehicle access restricted. | Loss of some recreation use opportunities. |
| | Wildlife | Improvements | Motorized access for construction and maintenance of horizontal well permitted when no other means are practical. | Inconvenience to CDF&G personnel. Slight degradation of naturalness. Benefit to wildlife values. |
| | RTE/Sensitive Species | General | Protected under NWPS. | Enhancement of existing protection. |
| | Minerals/Energy | Geothermal Development | Development prohibited. | Loss of low geothermal potential. |
| | | Mineral Development | No new claims after 12/31/83. Potential development of claims in moderate mineral areas. | Loss of low mineral potential areas and areas of moderate uranium potential. Possible degradation of naturalness and solitude where valid mineral development occurs. |
| | Cultural | Interpretation | Interpretive facilities of Saline Valley Salt Tram and Pat Keyes historic mining trail prohibited within suitable boundaries. | Loss of interpretive opportunities within suitable boundaries. |
| Southern Inyo CA-010-056 (Nonsuitable: 9,180 acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Wilderness values not protected under NWPS. | Potential degradation of wilderness values due to mineral and geothermal development, interpretive facilities development, motorized vehicle use, and access to and utilization of patented land. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE I: PROPOSED ACTION

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Southern Inyo Nonsuitable (Cont.) | Recreation | Motorized Vehicle Use/Sightseeing/ Hunting | Vehicle access not restricted. | Slight, localized degradation of naturalness and solitude. |
| | RTE/Sensitive Species | General | Not protected under NWPS. | Possible degradation of plants/animals and their habitat due to motorized vehicle use and potential geothermal and mineral development. Continued protection under Endangered Species Act and Bureau Policy. |
| | Wildlife | Improvements | Motorized access for construction and maintenance of horizontal well allowed. | Slight degradation of naturalness. Benefits wildlife species. |
| | Minerals/Energy | Geothermal Development | Development permitted. | Probable loss of wilderness values along western edge. |
| | | Mineral Development | Development permitted. | Probable loss of wilderness values where development occurs. |
| Independence Creek CA-010-057 (Nonsuitable: 6,250 acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Wilderness values not protected under NWPS. | Potential degradation of wilderness values due to fuelwood harvesting, proposed burns, transmission line right-of-way, low to moderate mineral development potential of existing claims and motorized access. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE I: PROPOSED ACTION

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Independence Creek (Cont.) | Recreation | Hunting/ORV Use/ Fishing | Vehicle use not restricted. Brush thinning of drainages for angler access allowed. | Some degradation of naturalness and solitude due to motorized recreational use and vegetation removal. |
| | Vegetation | Livestock Grazing | Pipeline construction and maintenance and associated motorized access permitted. | Slight localized degradation of naturalness and solitude. |
| | | | Proposed prescribed burn on 1,800 acres for forage production allowed. | Degradation of naturalness and solitude. |
| | | Fuelwood Harvesting | Motorized access and harvesting in drainages allowed. | Degradation of naturalness and solitude. |
| | Wildlife | General | Habitat management of sensitive streams and riparian areas. | Loss of wilderness protection. |
| | Lands | Water Spreading and Flood Control Facilities | Existing facilities would remain. New construction could be allowed under the recommended flood control plan. Maintenance and access authorized on a case-by-case basis. | Slight degradation of naturalness. Potential degradation of naturalness and solitude associated with new construction. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE I: PROPOSED ACTION

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Independence Creek (Cont.) | Minerals/Energy | Mineral Development | Development permitted. | Possible loss of wilderness values where development occurs. |
| Crater Mountain CA-010-062 (Nonsuitable: 7,260 acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Wilderness values not protected under NWPS. | Potential degradation of wilderness values from geothermal resource and power site reserve development. |
| | Recreation | Hunting Access/ ORV Use | Vehicle use allowed. | Some degradation of naturalness and solitude. |
| | Vegetation | Livestock Grazing | Vehicle access for construction of boundary fence and maintenance of existing fence and pipeline allowed. | Slight localized degradation of naturalness and solitude. |
| | Wildlife | Improvements | Construction of Chukar water facility allowed. | Slight short-term degradation of naturalness. Benefits wildlife. |
| | Minerals/Energy | Geothermal/ Mineral Development | Development permitted. | Possible loss of wilderness values where development occurs. |
| | Cultural | Intensive Research | Intensive research under multiple use allowed. | Localized degradation of naturalness where excavation occurs. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE I: PROPOSED ACTION

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Symmes Creek CA-010-064 (Nonsuitable: 8,130 acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Wilderness values not protected under NWPS. | Potential degradation of wilderness values due to apiary site use, fuelwood harvesting, proposed burns, potential for power site reserve development, low to moderate development potential of existing mining claims, transmission line right-of-way, motorized access. |
| | Recreation | Hunting/Fishing/ ORV Use | Vehicle use not restricted. Brush thinning of drainages for angler access allowed. | Some degradation of naturalness and solitude due to motorized access and vegetation removal. |
| | Vegetation | Livestock Grazing | Pipeline construction and maintenance, and associated motorized access permitted. | Slight localized degradation of naturalness and solitude. |
| | | | Proposed burn on 3,800 acres for forage production allowed. | Degradation of naturalness and solitude. |
| | | Fuelwood Harvesting | Motorized access and harvesting in drainages allowed. | Degradation of naturalness and solitude. |
| | Wildlife | General | Habitat management of sensitive streams and riparian areas. | Loss of wilderness protection. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE I: PROPOSED ACTION

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Symmes Creek (Cont.) | Wildlife (Cont.) | Improvements | Access for modification of fish habitat structures allowed. | Slight degradation of naturalness and solitude. Benefit to fish. |
| | Lands | Apiary sites | Use of authorized sites allowed. | Slight degradation of naturalness and solitude. |
| | | Water Spreading and Flood Control Facilities | Existing facilities would remain. Additional structures could be allowed under the recommended flood control plan. Access and maintenance authorized on a case-by-case basis. | Slight degradation of naturalness. Potential degradation of naturalness and solitude associated with new construction. |
| | Minerals/Energy | Mineral Development | Development permitted. | Possible loss of wilderness values where development occurs. |
| Chidago Canyon CA-010-079 (Nonsuitable: 20,246 acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Wilderness values not protected under NWPS. | Potential degradation of wilderness values due to potential utilization of and access to private inholdings, potential development of geothermal resources, use of established utility line corridor, motorized access, and permitted grazing activities. |
| | Recreation | Hunting/ORV Use/ Sightseeing | Vehicle use permitted. | Degradation of wilderness and cultural values. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE I: PROPOSED ACTION

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Chidago Canyon (Cont.) | Vegetation | Livestock Grazing | Motorized access to construct and maintain proposed fence, maintain existing pipeline, haul water, herd sheep, use livestock driveway,and for mineral block placement allowed. | Slight degradation of naturalness and solitude values. |
| | Wildlife | Improvements | Vehicle access for wildlife guzzler(s) allowed. | Slight degradation of solitude. |
| | Lands | Utility Line Corridor | Development of proposed ½ mile wide corridor allowed. | Potential degradation of wilderness values. |
| | Minerals/Energy | Geothermal/ Mineral Development | Development permitted. | Possible loss of wilderness values where development occurs. |
| | Cultural | Scientific Research and Observation | Research and observation under multiple use management allowed. | Some potential degradation of naturalness if excavation or collecting occurs. |
| Fish Slough CA-010-080 (Nonsuitable: 14,450 acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Wilderness values not protected by NWPS. | Potential degradation of wilderness values due to potential geothermal development, access to and utilization of private inholdings, use of proposed utility line corridor, motorized access, and permitted grazing activities. |
| | Recreation | Motorized Vehicle Use | Motorized vehicle use would continue. | Slight degradation of solitude, some naturalness, and cultural values. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE I: PROPOSED ACTION

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Fish Slough (Cont.) | Vegetation | Livestock Grazing | Provide motorized access to construct and maintain proposed fence, for hauling water, herding sheep, and livestock driveway. | Slight degradation of naturalness and solitude values. |
| | Lands | Utility Line Corridor | Development of proposed ½ mile wide corridor allowed. | Potential degradation of wilderness values. |
| | Minerals/Energy | Geothermal/ Mineral Development | Development permitted. | Possible loss of wilderness values where development occurs. |
| | Cultural | Scientific Research and Observation | Research and observation as well as motorized access for above allowed. | Some degradation of naturalness if excavation or collecting occurs. |
| Volcanic Tableland CA-010-081 (Nonsuitable: 11,840 acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Wilderness values not protected under NWPS. | Potential degradation of wilderness values due to potential utilization of and access to nonpublic lands, potential geothermal development, potential power site reserve development, use of proposed utility line corridor, motorized access, and permitted grazing activities. |
| | Recreation | Motorized Vehicle Use | Motorized vehicle use allowed. | Slight degradation of wilderness values. |
| | Vegetation | Livestock Grazing | Motorized access to construct and maintain proposed fence, for | Slight degradation of naturalness and solitude values. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE I: PROPOSED ACTION

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Volcanic Tableland (Cont.) | Vegetation (Cont.) | Livestock Grazing (Cont.) | hauling water, herding sheep, and livestock driveway allowed. | |
| | Lands | Utility Line Corridor | Development of proposed ½ mile wide corridor allowed. | Potential degradation of wilderness values. |
| | Minerals/Energy | Geothermal/ Mineral Development | Development permitted. | Possible loss of wilderness values where development occurs. |
| Casa Diablo CA-010-082 (Nonsuitable: 9,167 acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Wilderness values not protected under NWPS. | Potential degradation of wilderness values due to potential development of power site reserves, fuelwood cutting needs, potential valid existing mineral rights, geothermal development, potential use of proposed utility line corridor, and motorized access. |
| | Recreation | Hunting Access and Motorized Vehicle Use | Vehicle use allowed. | Some degradation of solitude and naturalness. |
| | Vegetation | Livestock Grazing | Motorized access to haul water provided. | Slight degradation of naturalness and solitude values. |
| | | Non-commercial Fuelwood Harvesting | Motorized access and harvesting allowed. | Some degradation of naturalness. |
| | Lands | Utility Line Corridor | Development of proposed ½ mile wide corridor allowed. | Potential degradation of wilderness values. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE I: PROPOSED ACTION

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Casa Diablo (Cont.) | Minerals/Energy | Geothermal/ Mineral Development | Development permitted. | Possible loss of wilderness values where development occurs. |
| Excelsior CA-010-088 (Nonsuitable: 9,100 acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Wilderness values not protected under NWPS. | Potential degradation of wilderness values due to potential geothermal development, harvesting of fuelwood, motorized vehicle use, and permitted grazing activities. |
| | Recreation | Hunting Access and Motorized Vehicle Use | Vehicle use allowed. | Some degradation of solitude due to motorized access. |
| | Vegetation | Livestock Grazing | Motorized access for mineral block placement, for maintenance and/or construction of proposed windmill allowed. | Slight degradation of naturalness and solitude values. |
| | | Fuelwood Harvesting | Allow motorized access and harvesting of fuelwood. | Some degradation of naturalness. |
| | RTE/Sensitive Species | General | Not protected under NWPS. | Possible degradation of plant and habitat by motorized vehicle use, potential geothermal development, etc. Continued protection under Endangered Species Act and Bureau policy. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE I: PROPOSED ACTION

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Excelsior (Cont.) | Minerals/Energy | Geothermal/ Mineral Development | Development permitted. | Possible loss of wilderness values where development occurs. |
| Granite Mountains CA-010-090 (Nonsuitable: 56,741 acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Wilderness values not protected under NWPS. | Some degradation of wilderness values due to proposed burns and sprays, fuelwood cutting, expansion of existing material site, potential geothermal and mineral development, Bodie/Mono Mills R.R. interpretation, motorized vehicle use, potential access and use of non-public land, and permitted grazing activities. |
| | Recreation | Hunting Access/ ORV Use/Sightseeing (Wildlife) | Vehicle use allowed. | Slight degradation of solitude. |
| | Vegetation | Livestock Grazing | Motorized access for sheep-herders, water hauling, mineral block placement, for maintenance and/or construction of fences and pipelines permitted. | Slight localized degradation of naturalness and solitude. |
| | | Livestock Grazing | Proposed prescribed burns (5,500 acres) and proposed sprays (2,500 acres) permitted. | Short-term degradation of naturalness and solitude. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE I: PROPOSED ACTION

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Granite Mountains (Cont.) | Vegetation (Cont.) | Fuelwood Harvesting | Motorized access and harvesting of fuelwood permitted. | Some degradation of naturalness and solitude. |
| | RTE/Sensitive Species | General | Not protected under NWPS. | Possible degradation of plant and habitat due to motorized vehicle use and geothermal development. Continued protection under Endangered Species Act and Bureau policy. |
| | Mineral/Energy | Geothermal Development | Development permitted. | Loss of wilderness values where development occurs. |
| | | Mineral Development | Development permitted. | Loss of wilderness values where development occurs. |
| | Cultural | Interpretive Facilities Development | Development of Bodie-Mono Mills Railroad interpretive facilities allowed. | Slight loss of naturalness. Interpretive/educational benefit. |
| Walford Springs CA-010-092 (Nonsuitable: 13,200 acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Wilderness values not protected under NWPS. | Potential degradation of wilderness values due to potential geothermal development, harvesting of fuelwood, use of non-public land, motorized vehicle use, pending sale of land through aqueduct application, and permitted grazing activities. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE I: PROPOSED ACTION

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Walford Springs (Cont.) | Recreation | Motorized Vehicle Use | Vehicle use allowed. | Some degradation of solitude. |
| | Vegetation | Livestock Grazing | Motorized access for sheep-herders, mineral block placement, and maintenance and/or construction of proposed windmills and fences allowed. | Slight degradation of naturalness and solitude values. |
| | | Fuelwood Harvesting | Motorized access and harvesting of fuelwood allowed. | Some degradation of naturalness. |
| | RTE/Sensitive Species | General | Not protected under NWPS. | Possible degradation of plant and habitat by motorized vehicle use and geothermal development. Continued protection under Endangered Species Act and Bureau policy. |
| | Minerals/Energy | Geothermal/ Mineral Development | Development permitted. | Probable loss of wilderness values where development occurs. |
| Mormon Meadows CA-010-094 (Nonsuitable: 7,280 acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Wilderness values not protected under NWPS. | Degradation of wilderness values due to potential mineral and geothermal development, motorized vehicle use, access to and utilization of non-public land, fuelwood harvesting, and permitted grazing activities. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE I: PROPOSED ACTION

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mormon Meadows (Cont.) | Recreation | Motorized Vehicle Use/Snowmobiling/ Hunting Access | Vehicle use allowed. | Slight to moderate degradation of wilderness values. |
| | Vegetation | Improvements | Motorized access for rehabilitation and maintenance of aspen groves provided. | Slight short-term degradation of naturalness and solitude. Improved naturalness in long-term. |
| | | Livestock Grazing | Motorized access for sheep-herders, mineral block placement, hauling livestock water and construction and maintenance of proposed spring development provided. | Slight localized degradation of naturalness and solitude. |
| | | Fuelwood Harvesting/Non-Commercial Pinyon Nut Harvesting | Motorized access and harvesting of fuelwood and pinyon nuts allowed. | Some degradation of naturalness and solitude. |
| | RTE/Sensitive Species | General | Not protected under NWPS. | Possible degradation of plant and habitat due to motorized vehicle use, mineral and geothermal development and permitted grazing activities. Continued protection under Endangered Species Act and Bureau policy. |
| | Minerals/Energy | Geothermal/ Mineral Development | Development permitted. | Probable loss of wilderness values where development occurs. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE I: PROPOSED ACTION

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mt. Biedeman CA-010-095 (Nonsuitable: 12,420 acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Wilderness values not protected under NWPS. | Degradation of wilderness values due to potential mineral and geothermal development, motorized vehicle use, access to and utilization of non-public land, fuelwood harvesting, permitted grazing activities and structural/administrative-/interpretive facilities in Bodie Bowl. |
| | Recreation | Motorized Vehicle Use/Snowmobiling/ Hunting Access | Vehicle use for all recreational activities allowed. | Slight to moderate degradation of solitude and naturalness. |
| | Vegetation | Improvements | Motorized access for rehabilitation and maintenance of streams and meadows allowed. | Slight localized degradation of solitude. Benefit to wildlife, watershed, and naturalness. |
| | | Livestock Grazing | Motorized access for sheep-herders, mineral block placement, hauling livestock water, and construction and/or maintenance of fences, proposed spring developments, reservoirs, windmills and pipelines provided. | Slight degradation of naturalness and solitude. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE I: PROPOSED ACTION

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mt. Biedeman (Cont.) | Vegetation (Cont.) | Fuelwood Harvesting/Non-Commercial Pinyon Nut Harvesting | Motorized access and harvesting of fuelwood and pinyon nuts allowed. | Seasonal degradation of naturalness and solitude. |
| | RTE/Sensitive Species | General | Not protected under NWPS. | Possible degradation of plant and habitat due to motorized vehicle use, mineral and geothermal development and permitted grazing activities. Continued protection under Endangered Species Act. |
| | Minerals/Energy | Geothermal/ Mineral Development | Development permitted. | Probable loss of wilderness values where development occurs. |
| | Cultural | Interpretive Opportunities | Interpretive facilities for Bodie Bowl area allowed. | Slight loss of naturalness. |
| Bodie Mountains CA-010-099 (Nonsuitable: 23,360 acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Wilderness values not protected under NWPS. | Degradation of wilderness values due to potential mineral and geothermal development, motorized vehicle use, access to and utilization of nonpublic land, fuelwood harvesting, potential development of telephone line ROW, and permitted grazing activities. |
| | Recreation | Motorized Vehicle Use/Snowmobiling/ Hunting Access | Vehicle use for all recreational activities allowed. | Slight to moderate degradation of wilderness values. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE I: PROPOSED ACTION

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bodie Mountains (Cont.) | Vegetation | Improvements | Motorized access for rehabilitation of streams, springs, and meadows provided. | Slight degradation of solitude. Benefit to wildlife, watershed, and natural values. |
| | | Livestock Grazing | Motorized access for mineral block placement, maintenance and/or construction of fences, pipelines, proposed reservoirs, spring developments, and road improvements provided. | Slight degradation of naturalness and solitude. |
| | | Fuelwood Harvesting/Non-Commercial Pinyon Nut Harvesting | Motorized access and harvesting of fuelwood and pinyon nuts would be allowed. | Seasonal degradation of naturalness. |
| | RTE/Sensitive Species | General | Not protected under NWPS. | Possible degradation of plant and habitat due to motorized vehicle use, mineral and geothermal development, fuelwood harvesting, and permitted grazing activities. Continued protection under Endangered Species Act and Bureau policy. |
| | Minerals/Energy | Geothermal/ Mineral Development | Development permitted. | Probable loss of wilderness values where development occurs. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE I: PROPOSED ACTION

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bodie CA-010-100 (Nonsuitable: 15,455 acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Not protected under NWPS. | Degradation of wilderness values due to potential mineral and geothermal development, motorized vehicle use, access to and utilization of non-public land, fuelwood harvesting, permitted grazing activities, and interpretation facilities at Bodie Bowl. |
| | Recreation | General | Vehicle use for all recreational activities allowed. | Slight to moderate degradation of wilderness values. |
| | Vegetation | Improvements | Motorized access for rehabilitation of streams, springs, meadows and aspen groves provided. | Slight degradation of solitude. Benefit to wildlife, watershed and natural values. |
| | | Livestock Grazing | Motorized access for mineral block placement, maintenance and/or construction of existing and/or proposed fences, pipelines, and spring developments provided. | Slight localized degradation of naturalness and solitude. |
| | | Fuelwood Harvesting/Non-Commercial Pinyon Nut Harvesting | Motorized access and harvesting of fuelwood and pinyon nuts allowed. | Slight seasonal degradation of naturalness and solitude. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE I: PROPOSED ACTION

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bodie (Cont.) | RTE/Sensitive Species | General | Not protected under NWPS. | Possible degradation of plant and habitat due to motorized vehicle use, mineral and geothermal development, and permitted grazing activities. Continued protection under Endangered Species Act and Bureau policy. |
| | Minerals/Energy | Geothermal/ Mineral Development | Development permitted. | Probable loss of wilderness values where development occurs. |
| | Cultural | Interpretive Opportunities | Allow interpretive facilities for Bodie Bowl area. | Slight loss of naturalness. |
| Masonic Mountains CA-010-102 (Nonsuitable: 6,600 acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Wilderness values not protected under NWPS. | Potential degradation of wilderness values due to potential mineral and geothermal development, motorized vehicle use, access to and utilization of nonpublic land, fuelwood harvesting, permitted grazing activities and proposed intensive land uses. |
| | Recreation | Motorized Vehicle Use/Snowmobiling/ Hunting Access | Vehicle use for all recreational activities allowed. | Slight degradation of opportunities for solitude, primitive recreation and some naturalness. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE I: PROPOSED ACTION

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Masonic Mountains (Cont.) | Vegetation | Improvements | Motorized access for rehabilitation of streams and springs provided. | Slight degradation of solitude. |
| | | Livestock Grazing | Motorized access for mineral block placement, maintenance and/or construction of existing and/or proposed fences, spring developments and reservoirs provided. | Slight localized degradation of naturalness and solitude. |
| | | Fuelwood Harvesting/Non-Commercial Pinyon Nut Harvesting | Motorized access and harvesting of fuelwood and pinyon nuts allowed. | Some seasonal degradation of naturalness and solitude. |
| | RTE/Sensitive Species | General | Not protected under NWPS. | Possible degradation of plant and habitat due to motorized vehicle use, mineral and geothermal development, harvesting of fuelwood, proposed intensive land uses and permitted grazing activities. Continued protection under Endangered Species Act and Bureau policy. |
| | Lands | Intensive Land Uses | Proposed intensive land uses allowed (Indian Colony & Mono County). | Loss of wilderness values. |
| | Minerals/Energy | Geothermal/ Mineral Development | Development permitted. | Probable loss of wilderness values where development occurs. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE I: PROPOSED ACTION

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Slinkard CA-010-105/NV-030-531 (Nonsuitable: 6,350 acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Wilderness values not protected under NWPS. | Potential degradation of wilderness values due to potential mineral and geothermal development, motorized vehicle use & fuelwood harvesting. |
| | Recreation | Motorized Vehicle Use/Snowmobiling/ Hunting Access | Vehicle use for all recreational activities allowed. | Slight degradation of wilderness values due to motorized vehicle use. |
| | Vegetation | Woodland Products Harvesting/Non-Commercial Pinyon Nut Harvesting | Motorized access and harvesting of woodland products and pinyon nuts allowed. | Some seasonal degradation of naturalness and solitude. |
| | RTE/Sensitive Species | General | Not protected under NWPS. | Possible degradation of animal and habitat due to motorized vehicle use and mineral and geothermal development. Continued protection under Endangered Species Act and Bureau policy. |
| | Minerals/Energy | Geothermal/ Mineral Development | Development permitted. | Probable loss of wilderness values where development occurs. |

TABLE 4-1
ALTERNATIVE II: ALL WILDERNESS

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Sacatar Meadows CA-010-027 (Suitable: 18,175 acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Effective management impractical due to western private land fingers extending into unit and effects of outside influences. | Potential degradation of wilderness values from incompatible encroachment and outside influences. |
| | Recreation | Hunting/ Rockhounding | Reduced use due to lack of vehicle access. | Some loss of recreation opportunity. |
| | | ORV | Closed to ORV use. | Some loss of recreation opportunity. |
| | Vegetative Resources | Grazing | Present use would continue. Three spring developments permitted. Proposed vegetation manipulation prohibited. | Same impact as Alt. I for suitable area. |
| | | Watershed | Restoration actions allowed if serious situations exists. | Wilderness values would be maintained. |
| | | Pinyon Nut Collection | Reduced use due to restricted vehicle use. | Increased use and impacts on adjacent areas. |
| | Wildlife | Improvements | Vehicle use for construction and maintenance under NCLWMA designation allowed when no other means are practical. | Potential constraint and inconvenience. Benefit to wildlife. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE II: ALL WILDERNESS

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Sacatar Meadows (Cont.) | Land Uses | Access | Obtain access easement in Sacatar Canyon. | Increased impacts at access points. Better access for wilderness-oriented users. |
| | | Acquisition | Acquire 200 acre parcel in Sec. 2, T. 23S., R.36E., M.D.B.M. | Enhance manageability. |
| | Minerals/Energy | Development | No new claims or leases after Dec. 31 1983. | Minimal impact anticipated due to low overall mineral and energy development potential. Loss of moderate uranium potential. |
| Cerro Gordo CA-010-055 (Suitable: 16,102 acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Management limited by potential valid existing mineral rights. Management enhanced by rugged terrain which deters outside influences and encroachment. | Probable degradation of wilderness values. |
| | Recreation | ORV Use/Sightseeing | Same as Alternative I under suitable. | |
| | Minerals/Energy | Geothermal Development | Same as Alternative I under suitable. | |
| | | Mineral Development | No new claims after 12/31/83. Potential development of claims in moderate to high mineral value areas. | Loss of high mineral potential in small areas. WSA has overall no to low potential. Loss of moderate uranium potential. Possible degradation of localized naturalness and solitude. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE II: ALL WILDERNESS

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cerro Gordo (Cont.) | Cultural | Interpretation | Same as Alternative I under suitable. | |
| Southern Inyo CA-010-056 (Suitable: 36,600 acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Management limited by potential valid existing mineral rights, patented inholdings, and some outside influences. Management enhanced by adjoining CDCA wilderness proposal. | Probable degradation of wilderness values in localized areas. |
| | Recreation | Motorized Vehicle Use/Sightseeing/ Hunting | Same as Alternative I under suitable. | |
| | RTE/Sensitive Species | General | Protected under NWPS. | Enhancement of existing protection. |
| | Wildlife | Improvements | Motorized access for construction and maintenance of horizontal wells permitted when no other means are practical. | Inconvenience to CDF&G personnel. Slight degradation of naturalness. Benefit to wildlife values. |
| | Lands | Patented Lands | Vehicle access to and utilization of patented land provided when no other means are practical. | Potential inconvenience to owner. Possible impacts to naturalness and solitude. |
| | Minerals/Energy | Geothermal Development | Development prohibited. | Loss of low to moderate geothermal potential. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE II: ALL WILDERNESS

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Southern Inyo (Cont.) | Minerals/ Energy (Cont.) | Mineral Development | No new claims after 12/31/83. Potential development of claims in moderate to high mineral value areas. | Loss of low mineral potential areas with small areas of moderate to high potential and loss of areas with moderate potential for uranium. Localized degradation of naturalness and solitude where valid mineral development occurs. |
| | Cultural | Interpretation | Same as Alternative I under suitable. | |
| Independence Creek CA-010-057 (Suitable: 6,250 acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Effective management limited due to lack of identifiable boundary features along the east side, lack of natural barriers to outside influences, potential valid existing mineral rights, a transmission line right-of-way, and permitted grazing activities. | Potential degradation of wilderness values. |
| | Recreation | Hunting/ORV Use/ Fishing | Vehicle access prohibited. Brush thinning for angler access prohibited. | Loss of some recreation use opportunities. |
| | Vegetation | Livestock Grazing | Motorized access to construct and maintain pipeline provided when no other means are practical. | Potential inconvenience to operator. Would benefit natural values through better livestock distribution. Slight short-term localized impact to naturalness and solitude. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE II: ALL WILDERNESS

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Independence Creek (Cont.) | Vegetation (Cont.) | Vegetation Manipulation | Proposed prescribed burn on 1,800 acres prohibited. | Loss of increased livestock forage availability. |
| | | Fuelwood Harvesting | Prohibit motorized access and harvesting in drainages. | Loss of fuelwood harvesting opportunities. |
| | Wildlife | General | Manage sensitive stream and riparian areas. | Best long term protection. Constrained management techniques. |
| | Lands | Water Spreading and Flood Control Facilities | Existing facilities would remain. New facilities could be allowed. Maintenance and access authorized on a case-by-case basis. | Limitation on meeting optimum watershed protection needs. Possible degradation of naturalness and solitude. |
| | Minerals/Energy | Mineral Development | No new claims after 12/31/83. Potential development of claims in moderate mineral areas. | Loss of low to moderate mineral potential. Localized degradation of solitude and naturalness where valid mineral development occurs. |
| Crater Mountain CA-010-062 (Suitable: 7,260 acres | Wilderness | Manageability | Effective management very difficult due to Power Site Reserves, outside sights and sounds, and permitted grazing activities. | Possible degradation of wilderness values. |
| | Recreation | Hunting Access/ ORV Use | Vehicle use prohibited. | Loss of some recreation use opportunities. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE II: ALL WILDERNESS

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Crater Mountain (Cont.) | Vegetation | Livestock Grazing | Motorized access to maintain existing pipeline and fence and proposed boundary fence allowed when no other means are practical. | Potential inconvenience to operators. Benefits natural values through improved livestock distribution. Slight localized impact to naturalness and solitude. |
| | Wildlife | Improvements | Development of chuckar water improvement permitted. | Enhancement of wildlife values. Slight localized impact to naturalness. |
| | Lands | Power Site Reserve | Evaluate reserve through withdrawal review process. | Loss of Power Site Reserve or potential loss of wilderness values if not revoked. |
| | Minerals/Energy | Geothermal Development | Development prohibited. | Loss of moderate geothermal potential. |
| | | Mineral Development | No new claims after 12/31/83. | Loss of low mineral potential. |
| | Cultural | Intensive Research | Proposed intensive research allowed. | Some constraints on intensive research. |
| Symmes Creek CA-010-064 (Suitable: 8,130 acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Effective management very difficult due to lack of easily identifiable eastern boundary features, outside influences, power site reserve, a right-of-way, apiary sites, potential valid existing mineral rights, and permitted grazing activities. | Potential degradation of wilderness values. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE II: ALL WILDERNESS

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Symmes Creek (Cont.) | Recreation | Hunting/ORV Use/ Fishing | Vehicle use prohibited. Vehicle use associated with past fish stocking practices allowed. Brush thinning not allowed. | Loss of some recreation use opportunities. |
| | Vegetation | Livestock Grazing | Motorized access to construct and maintain pipeline allowed where no other means are practical. | Potential inconvenience to livestock operators. Benefits to natural values from improved livestock distribution. Slight localized impacts to naturalness and solitude. |
| | | | Proposed prescribed burn on 3,800 acres prohibited. | Loss of increased livestock forage availability. |
| | | Fuelwood Harvesting | Motorized access and harvesting of fuelwood prohibited. | Loss of fuelwood harvesting opportunities. |
| | Wildlife | Improvements | Motorized access to maintain fish habitat structures allowed when no other means are practical. | Enhancement of wildlife values. Localized impacts to solitude. |
| | | General | Manage sensitive stream and riparian areas. | Best long-term protection. Constrained management techniques. |
| | Lands | Power Site Reserve | Evaluate reserve through withdrawal review process. | Loss of Power Site Reserve or possible loss of wilderness values if not revoked. |
| | | Apiary Sites | Sites abandoned and rehabilitated. | Hardship to operator. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE II: ALL WILDERNESS

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Symmes Creek (Cont.) | Lands (Cont.) | Water Spreading and Flood Control Facilities | Facilities would remain. New structures could be allowed. Maintenance and access authorized on a case-by-case basis. | Limitations on meeting optimum watershed protection needs. Possible degradation of naturalness and solitude. |
| | | Acquisition | Non-public land (640 acres) sec. 36, T. 13S., R. 34E., M.D.M. acquired or exchanged. | Enhanced wilderness manageability. |
| | Minerals/Energy | Mineral Development | No new claims after 12/31/83. Potential development of claims in moderate mineral areas. | Loss of very low to moderate mineral potential. Localized degradation of naturalness and solitude where valid mineral development occurs. |
| Chidago Canyon CA-010-079 (Suitable: 20,246 acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Management difficult due to lack of natural barriers to prevent vehicle access and shielding of outside influences. Also limited due to non-public land, aqueduct application with land purchase rights, moderate mineral potential, and permitted grazing activities. Good boundary features enhance manageability. | Possible degradation of wilderness values. |
| | Recreation | Hunting/ORV Use/ Sightseeing (Cultural) | Vehicle use prohibited. | Loss of some recreation use opportunities. Best protection of cultural values. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE II: ALL WILDERNESS

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Chidago Canyon (Cont.) | Vegetation | Livestock Grazing | Motorized access for maintenance and/or construction of pipeline and proposed fence allowed when no other means practical. | Some inconvenience to operator. Benefits natural values through improved livestock distribution. Slight localized degradation of naturalness, solitude. |
| | | | Motorized access for sheep herders, water hauling, and mineral block placement allowed when no other means practical. | Some inconvenience to operator. Slight impact to solitude and naturalness. |
| | Wildlife | Improvements | Motorized access for maintenance of bird guzzlers permitted when no other means are practical. | Inconvenience to CDF&G. Benefits wildlife. Slight temporary impact to solitude. |
| | Lands | Utility Line Corridor | Use of corridor prohibited. | Loss of utility line corridor use. Potential impacts from new corridor development elsewhere. |
| | Minerals/Energy | Mineral Development | No new claims after 12/31/83. Potential development of claims in moderate mineral value areas. | Loss of very low to moderate mineral potential. Localized impact to naturalness and solitude. |
| | | Geothermal Development | Development prohibited. | Loss of moderate geothermal potential. |
| | Cultural Resources | Intensive Scientific Research and Observation | Research, observation, and motorized access needs evaluated for authorization. | Inconvenience to individuals and protection of cultural resources. Potential impact to solitude and naturalness. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE II: ALL WILDERNESS

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Fish Slough CA-010-080 (Suitable: 14,450 acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Management somewhat limited due to some lack of natural barriers preventing vehicle access, non-public land, permitted grazing activities, and a pending aqueduct application. Enhanced by identifiable boundary features. | Possible degradation of wilderness values. |
| | Recreation | Motorized Vehicle Use | Motorized vehicle use prohibited. | Loss of some recreation use opportunities. |
| | Vegetation | Livestock Grazing | Motorized access to construct and maintain proposed fence, for hauling water, herding sheep and livestock driveway allowed where no other means are practical. | Inconvenience to operator. Slight impact to naturalness and solitude. Benefits natural values through improved livestock distribution. |
| | Lands | Power Site Reserve | Evaluate reserve through withdrawal review process. | Loss of Power Site Reserve or possible loss of wilderness values if not revoked. |
| | | Utility Line Corridor | Use of corridor prohibited. | Loss of utility line corridor use. Potential impacts from new corridor elsewhere. |
| | Minerals/Energy | Geothermal Development | Development prohibited. | Loss of moderate geothermal potential. |
| | | Mineral Development | No new claims after 12/31/83. | Loss of very low to low mineral potential. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE II: ALL WILDERNESS

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Fish Slough (Cont.) | Cultural | Scientific Research and Observation | Research, observation and associated motor access evaluated for authorization. | Inconvenience to individuals and long-term protection of cultural resources. Potential slight impact to naturalness and solitude. |
| Volcanic Tableland CA-010-081 (Suitable: 11,840 acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Management limited by lack of natural barriers to prevent vehicle encroachment, permitted grazing activities, outside sights and sounds, and a Power Site Reserve. Enhanced by easily identifiable boundaries. | Possible degradation of wilderness values. |
| | Recreation | Motorized Vehicle Use | Vehicle use prohibited. | Loss of some recreation use opportunities. |
| | Vegetation | Livestock Grazing | Motorized access for sheep herding, water hauling, mineral block placement, maintenance and construction of proposed fences provided when no other means are practical. | Inconvenience to operator. Slight localized degradation of naturalness and solitude. Benefits natural values through improved livestock distribution. |
| | Lands | Power Site Reserve | Power Site Reserves evaluated under withdrawal review process. | Loss of Power Site Reserves or possible loss of wilderness values if not revoked. |
| | | Utility Line Corridor | Use of corridor prohibited. | Loss of utility line corridor use. Potential impacts from new corridor elsewhere. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE II: ALL WILDERNESS

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Volcanic Tableland (Cont.) | | Acquisition of Intruding Non-Public Land | 640 acres in Sec. 16, T. 6S, R. 32E., M.D.M. at $7,500/acre acquired or exchanged. | Results in enhanced manageability. |
| | Minerals/Energy | Mineral Development | No new claims after 12/31/83. | Loss of very low to low mineral potential. |
| | | Geothermal Development | Development prohibited. | Loss of moderate geothermal potential. |
| Casa Diablo CA-010-082 (Suitable: 9,167 acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Effective management difficult due to Power Site Reserves, potential valid existing mineral rights, permitted grazing activities, and some lack of natural barriers to prevent vehicle encroachment. | Probable degradation of wilderness values. |
| | Recreation | Hunting Access and Other Motorized Vehicle Use | Vehicle use prohibited. | Some loss of recreation use opportunities. |
| | Vegetation | Livestock Grazing | Motorized access to haul water provided where no other means are practical. | Inconvenience to operators. Slight localized loss of solitude. |
| | | Non-commercial Fuelwood Harvesting | Motorized access and harvesting of fuelwood prohibited. | Loss of non-commercial fuelwood harvesting opportunities. |
| | Lands | Power Site Reserve | Evaluate reserve through withdrawal review process. | Loss of Power Site Reserve or possible loss of wilderness values if not revoked. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE II: ALL WILDERNESS

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Casa Diablo (Cont.) | Lands (Cont.) | Utility Line Corridor | Corridor use prohibited. | Loss of corridor use. Potential impacts from new corridor elsewhere. |
| | Minerals/Energy | Geothermal Development | Prohibit development. | Loss of moderate geothermal potential. |
| | | Mineral Development | No new claims after 12/31/83. Potential development of claims in moderate mineral value areas. | Loss of very low to moderate mineral potential. Local impact to naturalness and solitude where valid mineral development occurs. |
| Excelsior CA-010-088 (Suitable: 9,100 acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Management difficult due to permitted grazing activities, a lack of natural barriers to prevent vehicle access and shielding of outside influences. | Potential degradation of wilderness values. |
| | Recreation | Hunting Access and Motorized Vehicle Use | Vehicle use prohibited. | Some loss of recreation use opportunities. |
| | Vegetation | Livestock Grazing | Motorized access for mineral block placement, maintenance and/or construction of proposed windmill provided when no other means are practical. | Inconvenience to operator. Benefits natural values through improved livestock distribution. Slight localized loss of naturalness and solitude. |
| | | Fuelwood Harvesting | Motorized access and harvesting of fuelwood prohibited. | Loss of fuelwood harvesting opportunities. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE II: ALL WILDERNESS

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Excelsior (Cont.) | RTE/Sensitive Species | General | Protected under NWPS. | Enhancement of existing protection. |
| | Minerals/Energy | Geothermal Development | Development prohibited. | Loss of moderate geothermal potential. |
| | | Mineral Development | No new claims after 12/31/83. | Loss of areas of low mineral potential. |
| Granite Mountains CA-010-090 (Suitable: 56,741 acres | Wilderness | Manageability | Management limited by the configuration of the area, permitted grazing activities, potential for valid existing mineral rights, expansion of material site, a pending aqueduct application, and non-public land. Enhanced by easily identifiable boundaries. | Probable degradation of wilderness values in localized areas. |
| | Recreation | Hunting/ORV Use/ Sightseeing (Wildlife) | Vehicle use associated with all recreational activities prohibited. | Some loss of recreation use opportunities. |
| | Vegetation | Livestock Grazing | Motorized access for sheep-herders, water hauling, mineral block placement, maintenance and/or construction of pipelines and fences allowed when no other means are practical. | Inconvenience to operators. Benefits natural values through improved livestock distribution. Localized, slight degradation of naturalness and solitude. |
| | | | Proposed prescribed burns (5,500 acres) and proposed sprays (2,500 acres) prohibited. | Loss of additional livestock forage. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE II: ALL WILDERNESS

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Granite Mountains (Cont.) | Vegetation (Cont.) | Fuelwood Harvesting | Motorized access and harvesting of fuelwood prohibited. | Loss of fuelwood harvesting opportunities. |
| | RTE/Sensitive Species | General | Protected under NWPS. | Enhancement of existing protection. |
| | Minerals/Energy | Geothermal Development | Development prohibited. | Loss of moderate to high geothermal potential. Portion of area lies within Mono-Long Valley KGRA with pending lease applications. |
| | | Mineral Development | No new claims after 12/31/83. Potential development of claims in moderate mineral value areas. | Loss of areas of moderate mineral potential. Localized impact to solitude and naturalness where valid mineral development occurs. |
| | Cultural | Interpretation | Interpretive facilities of Bodie-Mono Mills Railroad prohibited within suitable boundaries. | Loss of interpretive opportunities within suitable boundaries. |
| Walford Springs CA-010-092 (Suitable: 13,200 acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Management ineffective due to a lack of natural barriers to prevent vehicle access and to shield some outside influences, non-public lands, permitted grazing activities, and an aqueduct application. | Probable degradation of wilderness values. |
| | Recreation | Motorized Vehicle Use | Motorized vehicle use prohibited. | Some loss of recreation use opportunities. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE II: ALL WILDERNESS

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Walford Springs (Cont.) | Vegetation | Livestock Grazing | Motorized access needs for sheep herders, mineral block placement and maintenance and/or construction of proposed windmills and fences provided when no other means are practical. | Inconvenience to operator, slight localized loss of naturalness and solitude. Benefits natural values through improved livestock distribution. |
| | | Fuelwood Harvesting | Motorized access and harvesting of fuelwood prohibited. | Loss of fuelwood harvesting opportunities. |
| | RTE/Sensitive Species | General | Protected under NWPS. | Enhancement of existing protection. |
| | Minerals/Energy | Geothermal Development | Development prohibited. | Loss of moderate to high geothermal potential. Portion of area lies within Mono-Long Valley KGRA with pending lease applications. |
| | | Mineral Development | No new claims after 12/31/83. | Loss of low mineral potential. |
| Mormon Meadows CA-010-094 (Suitable: 7,280 acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Management difficult due to non-public land, outside influences, some lack of easily identifiable boundary features. Enhanced by natural barriers to vehicle encroachment. | Potential degradation of wilderness values. |
| | Recreation | Motorized Vehicle Use/Snowmobiling/ Hunting Access | Vehicle use prohibited. | Some loss of recreation use opportunities. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE II: ALL WILDERNESS

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mormon Meadows (Cont.) | Vegetation | Improvements | Motorized access for rehabilitation and maintenance of aspen groves allowed when no other means are practical. | Benefits wildlife and natural values. Temporary slight impact to solitude. |
| | | Livestock Grazing | Motorized access for sheep herders, mineral block placement, hauling livestock water, construction and maintenance of proposed spring development allowed when no other means are practical. | Potential inconvenience to operators. Slight localized impact to naturalness and solitude. Benefits natural values through improved distribution of livestock and protection of water sources. |
| | | Fuelwood Harvesting/Non-Commercial Pinyon Nut Harvesting | Motorized access and fuelwood harvesting prohibited. Noncommercial pinyon nut harvesting allowed. | Loss of fuelwood harvesting opportunities and inconvenience to pinyon nut harvesters. |
| | RTE/Sensitive Species | General | Protected under NWPS. | Enhancement of existing protection. |
| | Minerals/Energy | Geothermal Development | Development prohibited. | Loss of high geothermal potential. |
| | | Mineral Development | No new claims after 12/31/83. | Loss of low metallic mineral potential. |
| Mt. Biedeman CA-010-095 (Suitable: 12,420 acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Management difficult due to potential valid existing mineral rights, outside influences, a lack of easily identifiable boundaries and cherrystem | Potential degradation of wilderness values. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE II: ALL WILDERNESS

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mt. Biedeman (Cont.) | Wilderness (Cont.) | Manageability (Cont.) | intrusions. Enhanced by natural barriers which restrict vehicle encroachment. | |
| | Recreation | Motorized Vehicle Use/Snowmobiling/ Hunting Access | Vehicle use associated with all recreational activities prohibited. | Some loss of recreation use opportunities. |
| | Vegetation | Improvements | Motorized access for rehabilitation and maintenance of streams and meadows allowed when no other means are practical. | Some degradation of solitude. Benefits wildlife, watershed and natural values. |
| | | Livestock Grazing | Motorized access for sheep herders, mineral block placement, hauling livestock water and construction and/or maintenance of fences, proposed spring developments, reservoirs, windmills, & pipelines allowed when no other means are practical. | Potential inconvenience to operators. Slight localized impact to naturalness and solitude. |
| | | Fuelwood Harvesting/Non-Commercial Pinyon Nut Harvesting | Motorized access and fuelwood harvesting prohibited. Pinyon nut harvesting allowed. | Loss of fuelwood harvesting opportunities and inconvenience to pinyon nut harvesters. |
| | RTE/Sensitive Species | General | Protected under NWPS. | Enhancement of existing protection. |
| | Lands | Acquisition | 80 acres of non-public land at $400/acre acquired or exchanged. | Would result in enhanced manageability. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE II: ALL WILDERNESS

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mt. Biedeman (Cont.) | Minerals/Energy | Geothermal Development | Development prohibited. | Loss of moderate to high geothermal potential. |
| | | Mineral Development | No new claims after 12/31/83. Potential development of claims in high mineral areas. | Loss of primarily low with some high potential metallic mineral areas. Localized impact to solitude and naturalness where valid mineral development occurs. |
| | Cultural | Interpretation | Interpretive facilities for portions of Bodie Bowl prohibited within suitable area. | Loss of interpretive opportunities within the suitable area. |
| Bodie Mountains CA-010-099 (Suitable: 23,360 acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Management very difficult due to permitted grazing activities, high potential for valid existing mineral rights, outside influences, a lack of easily identifiable boundary features along some portions, and cherrystem intrusions. Management enhanced some by natural barriers which prevents vehicle encroachment and intrusive outside influences. | Probable degradation of wilderness values. |
| | Recreation | Motorized Vehicle Use/Snowmobiling/ Hunting Access | Vehicle use associated with all recreational activities prohibited. | Some loss of recreation use opportunities. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE II: ALL WILDERNESS

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bodie Mountains (Cont.) | Vegetation | Improvements | Motorized access permitted for rehabilitation of streams, springs and meadows when no other means are practical. | Potential inconvenience to CDF&G. Benefits wildlife, watershed and naturalness. Temporary impact to solitude. |
| | | Livestock Grazing | Motorized access for mineral block placement, maintenance and/or construction of fences, pipelines, proposed reservoirs and spring developments allowed when no other means are practical. | Potential inconvenience to operators. Benefits natural values through improved livestock distribution and protection of water sources. Slight localized impact to solitude and naturalness. |
| | | Fuelwood Harvesting/Non-Commercial Pinyon Nut Harvesting | Motorized access and harvesting of fuelwood prohibited. Pinyon nut harvesting allowed. | Loss of fuelwood harvesting opportunities. Potential inconvenience to pinyon nut harvesters. |
| | RTE/Sensitive Species | General | Protected under NWPS. | Enhancement of existing protection. |
| | Lands | Acquisition | Acquire or exchange for all non-public land (2,120 acres) at approximately $400/acre. | Would result in enhanced manageability. |
| | Minerals/Energy | Geothermal Development | Development prohibited. | Loss of moderate to high geothermal potential. |
| | | Mineral Development | No new claims after 12/31/83. Potential development of claims in high mineral value areas. | Loss of primarily low with some high potential metallic mineral areas. Localized impacts to naturalness and solitude where valid mineral development occurs. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE II: ALL WILDERNESS

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bodie CA-010-100 (Suitable: 15,455 acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Management very difficult due to permitted grazing activities, potential for valid existing mineral rights, outside influences, cherrystem intrusions and lack of easily identifiable boundaries. Enhanced by natural barriers which restrict vehicle access and screen some outside influences. | Probable degradation of wilderness values. |
| | Recreation | General | Vehicle use associated with all recreational activities prohibited. | Some loss of recreation use opportunities. |
| | Vegetation | Improvements | Motorized access for rehabilitation of streams, springs, meadows and aspen groves allowed when no other means are practical. | Potential inconvenience to CDF&G. Benefits wildlife, watershed, and natural values. Temporary impact to solitude. |
| | | Livestock Grazing | Motorized access for mineral block placement, maintenance and/or construction of fences, pipelines, and proposed spring developments allowed when no other means are practical. | Potential inconvenience to operators. Slight localized impact to naturalness and solitude. Benefits natural values through improved livestock distribution and protection of water sources. |
| | | Fuelwood Harvesting/Non-Commercial Pinyon Nut Harvesting | Motorized access and harvesting of fuelwood prohibited. Pinyon nut harvesting allowed. | Loss of fuelwood harvesting opportunities. Potential inconvenience to pinyon nut harvesters. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE II: ALL WILDERNESS

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bodie (Cont.) | RTE/Sensitive Species | General | Protected under NWPS. | Enhancement of existing protection. |
| | Lands | Acquisition | Non-public lands (360 acres) @ approx. $400/acre acquired or exchanged. | Would result in enhanced manageability. |
| | Minerals/Energy | Geothermal Development | Development prohibited. | Loss of moderate geothermal potential. |
| | | Mineral Development | No new claims after 12/31/83. Potential development of claims in moderate to high mineral value areas. | Loss of primarily moderate with some high and low potential metallic mineral development opportunities. Localized degradation of solitude and naturalness where valid mineral development occurs. |
| | Cultural | Interpretation | Interpretive facilities for portions of Bodie Bowl prohibited within suitable area. | Loss of interpretive opportunities within suitable area. |
| Masonic Mountains CA-010-102 (Suitable: 6,600 acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Management limited by potential valid existing mineral rights, and outside influences. Enhanced by easily identifiable boundaries and natural barriers to screen some outside influences and prevent vehicle access. | Potential loss of wilderness values. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE II: ALL WILDERNESS

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Masonic Mountains (Cont.) | Recreation | Motorized Vehicle Use/Snowmobiling/ Hunting Access | Vehicle use associated with all recreational activities would be prohibited. | Some loss of recreation use opportunities. |
| | Vegetation | Improvements | Motorized access for rehabilitation of streams and springs allowed when no other means are practical. | Potential inconvenience to CDF&G. Temporary impact to solitude. Benefits wildlife, watershed and naturalness. |
| | | Livestock Grazing | Motorized access for mineral block placement and maintenance and/or construction of existing and/or proposed fences, spring developments and reservoirs allowed when no other means are practical. | Potential inconvenience to operators. Slight localized impact to naturalness and solitude. Benefits natural values through improved livestock distribution and water source protection. |
| | | Fuelwood Harvesting/Non-commercial Pinyon Nut Harvesting | Motorized access and harvesting of fuelwood prohibited. Pinyon nut harvesting allowed. | Loss of fuelwood harvesting opportunities. Potential inconvenience to pinyon nut harvesters. |
| | RTE/Sensitive Species | General | Protected under NWPS. | Enhancement of existing protection. |
| | Lands | Intensive Land Use | Proposed intensive land uses prohibited. | Loss of intensive land use opportunities to Mono County and Indian Colony. |
| | | Acquisition | Non-public land (120 acres) @ approx. $400/acre acquired or exchanged. | Would result in enhanced manageability. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE II: ALL WILDERNESS

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Masonic Mountains (Cont.) | Minerals/Energy | Geothermal Development | Development prohibited. | Loss of moderate to high geothermal potential. |
| | | Mineral Development | No new claims after 12/31/83. Potential development of claims in moderate mineral value areas. | Loss of low to moderate potential metallic mineral areas. Localized impact to naturalness and solitude where valid mineral development occurs. |
| Slinkard CA-010-105/NV-030-531 (Suitable: 6,350 acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Management limited due to potential valid existing mineral rights, the unit's narrow linear configuration, and openness to outside influences. | Possible degradation of wilderness values. |
| | Recreation | Motorized Vehicle Use/Snowmobiling/ Hunting Access | Vehicle use associated with all recreational activities prohibited. | Some loss of recreation use opportunities. |
| | Vegetation | Woodland Products Harvesting/Non-Commercial Pinyon Nut Harvesting | Motorized access and harvesting of woodland products prohibited. Pinyon nut harvesting allowed. | Loss of woodland products harvesting opportunities. Potential inconvenience to pinyon nut harvesters. |
| | RTE/Sensitive Species | General | Protected under NWPS. | Enhancement of existing protection. |
| | Minerals/Energy | Geothermal Development | Development prohibited. | Loss of moderate geothermal potential. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE II: ALL WILDERNESS

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Slinkard (Cont.) | Minerals/ Energy (Cont.) | Mineral Development | No new claims after 12/31/83. Potential development of claims in moderate mineral value areas. | Loss of areas of low metallic minerals. Loss of moderate uranium potential. Localized degradation of solitude and naturalness where valid development occurs. |

TABLE 4-1
ALTERNATIVE III: PARTIAL WILDERNESS

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Sacatar Meadows CA-010-027 (Suitable: 15,060 acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Some protection by a few natural barriers and common boundary with CDCA proposed wilderness. | Wilderness value would be maintained. Some influence from outside activities. |
| | Recreation | Hunting/ Rockhounding | Reduced use due to closing area to vehicle use. | Some loss of recreation opportunity. |
| | | ORV | 11 miles of vehicle routes closed. | Some loss of recreation opportunity. |
| | Vegetation | Livestock Grazing | Present use would continue. | No impact. |
| | | | Spring developments permitted. | Slight long-term impact to naturalness. Better protection of spring site. Some benefit to wildlife. |
| | | | Proposed vegetation manipulation to increase cattle numbers would be prohibited. | Maximum stocking rate not realized. |
| | | Watershed | Restoration actions allowed if serious situation exists. | Wilderness values would be maintained. |
| | | Pinyon Nut Collection | Reduced use due to restricted vehicle access. | Increased use and impacts on adjacent areas. |
| | Wildlife | Improvements | Vehicle use for construction and maintenance under NCLWMA designation allowed when no other means are practical. | Potential constraint and inconvenience. Benefit to wildlife. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE III: PARTIAL WILDERNESS

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Sacatar Meadows Suitable (Cont.) | Lands Uses | Access | Obtain access easement in Sacatar Canyon. | Increased impacts at access points. Better access for wilderness-oriented users. |
| | Minerals/ Energy | Development | No new claims or leases after Dec. 31, 1983. | Minimal impact anticipated due to low overall mineral and energy development potential. Loss of moderate uranium potential. |
| Sacatar Meadows CA-010-027 (Nonsuitable: 3,115 acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Wilderness values would not be protected under the NWPS. | Potential degradation of wilderness values due to vehicle use and adjoining private land activities. |
| | Recreation | Hunting/ Rockhounding | Vehicle use permitted. | Slight degradation of naturalness and solitude. |
| | | ORV | ORV use would be permitted. | Some degradation of naturalness and solitude. |
| | Vegetation | Livestock Grazing | Present use would continue. Methods of improvement not limited by wilderness policy. Motorized equipment allowed. | Degradation of wilderness values where improvements occur. Prescribed burning would aid the fire-dependent ecosystem. |
| | | Watershed | Methods of improvement not limited by wilderness policy. Motorized equipment allowed. | Some degradation of naturalness where improvements occur. Long-term protection of watershed. |
| | | Pinyon Nut Collection | Vehicle use allowed. | Seasonal short-term degradation of solitude. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE III: PARTIAL WILDERNESS

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Sacatar Meadows Nonsuitable (Cont.) | Wildlife | Improvements | Vehicle use allowed for construction & maintenance under NCLWMA designation. | Slight localized impacts to solitude and naturalness. Benefit to wildlife. |
| | Minerals/Energy | Development | Open to mineral entry and development. | Possible degradation of wilderness values where developments occur. Low overall mineral development potential. |
| Cerro Gordo CA-010-055 (Suitable: 14,222 acres) | Same as Alternative I under suitable. | | | |
| Cerro Gordo CA-010-055 (Nonsuitable: 1,880 acres) | Same as Alternative I under nonsuitable. | | | |
| Southern Inyo CA-010-056 (Suitable: 27,420 acres) | Same as Alternative I under suitable. | | | |
| Southern Inyo CA-010-056 (Nonsuitable: 9,180 acres) | Same as Alternative I under nonsuitable. | | | |
| Independence Creek CA-010-057 (Nonsuitable: 6,250 acres) | Same as Alternative I | | | |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE III: PARTIAL WILDERNESS

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Crater Mountain CA-010-062 (Suitable: 6,165 acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Manageability limited by potential vehicle encroachment and rounded, mountainous land from which is adversely affected by outside sights and sounds. | Loss of primitive wilderness experience opportunities throughout major portions of unit. |
| | Recreation | Hunting Access/ ORV Use/ | Same as Alternative II | |
| | Vegetation | Livestock Grazing | Provide motorized access for existing pipeline and proposed boundary fence where no other means are practical. | Potential inconvenience to operators. Benefits natural values through improved livestock distribution. Slight localized impact to naturalness and solitude. |
| | Minerals/Energy | Geothermal/Mineral Development | Same as Alternative II | |
| | Cultural | | Same as Alternative II | |
| Crater Mountain CA-010-062 (Nonsuitable: 1,095 acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Wilderness values not protected under NWPS. | Potential degradation of wilderness values due to possible geothermal resource, Power Site Reserve development, and permitted grazing activities. |
| | Recreation | Hunting Access/ ORV Use | Same as Alternative I | |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE III: PARTIAL WILDERNESS

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Crater Mountain (Cont.) | Vegetation | Livestock Grazing | Provide motorized access to construct boundary fence and maintain existing fence. | Slight localized degradation of naturalness and solitude. |
| | Wildlife | Improvements | Construction of chuckar water facility allowed. | Slight degradation of localized naturalness. |
| | Minerals/Energy | Geothermal/Mineral Development | Same as Alternative I | |
| | Cultural | Intensive Research | Same as Alternative I | |
| Symmes Creek CA-010-064 (Nonsuitable: 8,130 acres) | Same as Alternative I | | | |
| Chidago Canyon CA-010-079 (Suitable: 8,326 acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Management slightly limited due to lack of natural barriers to prevent vehicle access and shielding of outside influences, permitted grazing activities, and moderate mineral potential. Enhanced by identifiable boundary features. | Possible degradation of wilderness values. |
| | Recreation | Same as Alternative II | | |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE III: PARTIAL WILDERNESS

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Chidago Canyon Suitable (Cont.) | Vegetation | Livestock Grazing | Motorized access to construct and maintain proposed fenceline, for hauling water, herding sheep, and livestock driveway allowed when no other means are practical. | Inconvenience to operator. Slight degradation to localized naturalness and solitude. Benefits range values. |
| | Wildlife | Same as Alternative II | | |
| | Minerals/Energy | Same as Alternative II | | |
| | Cultural | Same as Alternative II | | |
| Chidago Canyon CA-010-079 (Nonsuitable: 11,920 acres) | Wilderness | Same as Alternative I | | |
| | Recreation | Same as Alternative I | | |
| | Vegetation | Livestock Grazing | Motorized access to construct and maintain proposed pipeline, hauling water, herding sheep, and livestock driveway allowed. | Slight degradation of naturalness and solitude. |
| | Wildlife | Same as Alternative I | | |
| | Lands | Same as Alternative I | | |
| | Minerals/Energy | Same as Alternative I | | |
| | Cultural | Same as Alternative I | | |

TABLE 4-1
ALTERNATIVE III: PARTIAL WILDERNESS

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Fish Slough CA-010-080 (Suitable: 14,090 acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Management slightly limited due to some lack of natural barriers to prevent vehicle access; non-public land; and permitted grazing activity. Enhanced by easily identifiable boundary roads. | Possible degradation of wilderness values. |
| | Recreation | Same as Alternative II | | |
| | Vegetation | Same as Alternative II | | |
| | Minerals/Energy | Same as Alternative II | | |
| | Cultural | Same as Alternative II | | |
| Fish Slough CA-010-080 (Nonsuitable: 360 acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Wilderness values not protected under NWPS. | Potential degradation of wilderness values due to potential geothermal development, use of proposed utility line corridor, motorized access, potential Power Site Reserve development, pending sale of land through aqueduct application. |
| | Vegetation | Livestock Grazing | Water hauling, herding sheep and livestock driveway use allowed. | Slight degradation of wilderness values. |
| | Lands | Same as Alternative I | | |
| | Minerals/Energy | Same as Alternative I | | |

TABLE 4-1
ALTERNATIVE III: PARTIAL WILDERNESS

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Volcanic Tableland CA-010-081 (Suitable: 10,920 acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Management limited by lack of natural barriers to prevent vehicle encroachment, permitted grazing activities, outside sights and sounds, non-public land. Enhanced by easily identifiable boundaries. | Possible degradation of wilderness values. |
| | Recreation | Same as Alternative II | | |
| | Vegetation | Same as Alternative II | | |
| | Lands | Acquisition | Same as Alternative II | |
| | Minerals/Energy | Same as Alternative II | | |
| Volcanic Tablelands CA-010-081 (Nonsuitable: 920 acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Wilderness values not protected under NWPS. | Potential degradation of wilderness values due to potential geothermal development, potential Power Site Reserve development, use of proposed utility line corridor, motorized access, permitted grazing activities. |
| | Vegetation | Livestock Grazing | Motorized access to construct and maintain proposed fence allowed. | Slight degradation of naturalness and solitude values. |
| | Lands | Same as Alternative I | | |
| | Minerals/Energy | Same as Alternative I | | |

TABLE 4-1
ALTERNATIVE III: PARTIAL WILDERNESS

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Casa Diablo CA-010-082 (Nonsuitable: 9,167 acres) | Same as Alternative I | | | |
| Excelsior CA-010-088 (Nonsuitable: 9,100 acres) | Same as Alternative I | | | |
| Granite Mountains CA-010-090 (Suitable: 35,981 acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Management limited by permitted grazing activities and non-public inholdings. Enhanced by natural barriers to screen outside influences, and easily identifiable boundaries. | Possible degradation of wilderness values. |
| | Recreation | Hunting/ORV Use | Same as Alternative II | |
| | Vegetation | Livestock Grazing | Motorized access for sheepherders, water hauling, mineral block placement, maintenance and/or construction of fences and proposed fences allowed when no other means are practical. | Potential inconvenience to operators. Slight loss of naturalness and solitude in localized areas. Benefits wilderness values through improved livestock distribution. |
| | | | Proposed prescribed burns (4,200 acres) and proposed sprays (2,500 acres) prohibited. | Loss of additional livestock forage. |
| | | Fuelwood Harvesting | Motorized access to and harvesting of fuelwood prohibited. | Loss of fuelwood harvesting opportunities. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE III: PARTIAL WILDERNESS

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Granite Mountains Suitable (Cont.) | RTE/Sensitive Species | Same as Alternative II | | |
| | Minerals/Energy | Geothermal Development | Development prohibited. | Loss of moderate to high geothermal potential. Portion of area lies within Mono-Long Valley KGRA (3,400 acres); interest expressed by private industry in lease sale. Pending lease applications exist on west side of suitable area. |
| | | Mineral Development | No new mining claims after 12/31/83 | Loss of low metallic mineral potential. |
| | Cultural | Same as Alternative II | | |
| Granite Mountains CA-010-090 (Nonsuitable: 20,760 acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Wilderness values not protected under NWPS. | Degradation of wilderness values due to proposed prescribed burns, fuelwood cutting, potential access and utilization of non-public land, expansion of existing material site, potential development of geothermal resources in Mono-Long Valley KGRA (geothermal lease applications currently pending), pending sale of land through aqueduct application, and potential development of mining claims (moderate mineral potential). |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE III: PARTIAL WILDERNESS

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Granite Mountains Nonsuitable (Cont.) | Recreation | Hunting Access/ ORV Use/ Sightseeing (Wildlife) | Vehicle use for all recreational activities would be allowed. | Some degradation of wilderness values. |
| | Vegetation | Livestock Grazing | Motorized access associated with pipeline and fence maintenance, proposed fencelines, pipelines and water troughs allowed when no other means are practical. | Slight degradation of naturalness and solitude. |
| | | | Proposed prescribed burns (1,300 acres) permitted. | Degradation of naturalness and solitude. |
| | | Fuelwood Harvesting | Motorized access for and harvesting of fuelwood permitted. | Some degradation of naturalness. |
| | Minerals/Energy | Same as Alternative I | | |
| | Cultural | Same as Alternative I | | |
| Walford Springs CA-010-092 (Nonsuitable: 13,200 acres) | Same as Alternative I | | | |
| Mormon Meadows CA-010-094 (Nonsuitable: 7,280 acres) | Same as Alternative I | | | |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE III: PARTIAL WILDERNESS

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mt. Biedeman CA-010-095 (Suitable: 9,300 acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Management difficult due to outside influences and a lack of easily identifiable boundaries in some portions. Enhanced by natural features which prevent vehicle encroachment. | Potential degradation of wilderness values. |
| | Recreation | Same as Alternative II | | |
| | Vegetation | Livestock Grazing | Motorized access for sheep herders, mineral block placement, hauling livestock water, construction and/or maintenance of proposed spring development, reservoir, windmill and pipeline allowed when no other means are practical. | Potential inconvenience to operators. Some loss of naturalness and solitude in localized areas. Benefits natural values through improved livestock distribution and protection of water sources. |
| | | Fuelwood Harvesting/Non-Commercial Pinyon Nut Harvesting | Same as Alternative II | |
| | RTE/Sensitive Species | Same as Alternative II | | |
| | Minerals/Energy | Geothermal Development | Development prohibited. | Loss of moderate to high geothermal potential. |
| | | Mineral Development | No new claims after 12/31/83. | Loss of low potential metallic mineral areas. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE III: PARTIAL WILDERNESS

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mt. Biedeman CA-010-095 (Nonsuitable: 3,120 acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Wilderness values not protected under NWPS. | Degradation of wilderness values due to potential mineral and geothermal development, motorized vehicle use, harvesting of vegetative products, and permitted grazing activities. |
| | Recreation | Same as Alternative I | | |
| | Vegetation | Livestock Grazing | Motorized access for sheepherders, mineral block placement, hauling livestock water, construction and/or maintenance of fences, proposed spring development, reservoirs and pipeline permitted when no other means are practical. | Slight degradation of naturalness and solitude. |
| | | Fuelwood Harvesting/ Non-commercial Pinyon Nut Harvesting | Same as Alternative I | |
| | Minerals/Energy | Same as Alternative I | | |
| | Cultural | Same as Alternative I | | |
| Bodie Mountains CA-010-099 (Suitable: 9,790 acres). | Wilderness | Manageability | Management difficult due to potential for valid existing mineral rights, non-public land, outside influences and cherrystem intrusions. Enhanced by | Probable degradation of wilderness values. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE III: PARTIAL WILDERNESS

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bodie Mountains (Cont.) | Wilderness (Cont.) | Manageability (Cont.) | some natural barriers to screen outside influences and prevent vehicle encroachment. | |
| | Recreation | Same as Alternative II | | |
| | Vegetation | Improvements. | Motorized access for rehabilitation of springs and meadows allowed when no other means are practical. | Potential inconvenience to CDF&G. Benefits wildlife, watershed, and natural values. Temporary impact to solitude. |
| | | Livestock Grazing | Motorized access for mineral block placement, maintenance and/or construction of fences, pipelines, and proposed spring developments allowed when no other means are practical. | Potential inconvenience to operators. Benefits natural values through improved livestock distribution and protection of water sources. Slight localized impact to naturalness and solitude. |
| | | Fuelwood Harvesting/Non-Commercial Pinyon Nut Harvesting | Same as Alternative II | |
| | RTE/Sensitive Species | General | Protected under NWPS. | Enhancement of existing protection. |
| | Lands | Acquisition | Acquire or exchange for all non-public land (700 acres) @ approx. $400/ac. | Would result in enhanced manageability. |
| | Minerals/Energy | Geothermal Development | Development prohibited. | Loss of high geothermal potential. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE III: PARTIAL WILDERNESS

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bodie Mountains Suitable (Cont.) | Minerals/Energy (Cont.) | Mineral Development | Same as Alternative II | |
| Bodie Mountains CA-010-099 (Nonsuitable: 13,570 acres) | Wilderness | Same as Alternative I | | |
| | Recreation | Same as Alternative I | | |
| | Vegetation | Livestock Grazing | Motorized access for mineral block placement, maintenance and/or construction of fences, proposed fences, proposed pipelines, proposed reservoirs, proposed spring developments, and proposed road improvements provided when no other means are practical. | Slight degradation of naturalness and solitude to local area. |
| | | Improvements | Same as Alternative I | |
| | | Fuelwood Harvesting/ Non-commercial Pinyon Nut Harvesting | Same as Alternative I | |
| | RTE/Sensitive Species | Same as Alternative I | | |
| | Minerals/Energy | Same as Alternative I | | |
| Bodie CA-010-100 (Suitable: 6,945 acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Management difficult due to potential valid existing mineral rights, outside influences and the area's irregular | Probable degradation of wilderness values. |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE III: PARTIAL WILDERNESS

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bodie Suitable (Cont.) | Wilderness (Cont.) | Manageability (Cont.) | configuration. Enhanced by natural barriers to screen out some outside influences and prevent vehicle encroachment. | |
| | Recreation | Same as Alternative II | | |
| | Vegetation | Improvements | Same as Alternative II | |
| | | Livestock Grazing | Motorized access for mineral block placement and maintenance and/or construction of existing and/or proposed fences, pipelines and spring developments allowed when no other means are practical. | Potential inconvenience to operators. Benefits natural values through improved livestock distribution and water source protection. Slight localized impact to solitude and naturalness. |
| | | Fuelwood Harvesting/Non-Commercial Pinyon Nut Harvesting | Same as Alternative II | |
| | RTE/Sensitive Species | General | Sphagnum peat bog protected under NWPS. | Enhancement of existing protection. |
| | Minerals/Energy | Geothermal Development | Development prohibited. | Loss of moderate geothermal potential. |
| | | Mineral Development | No new claims after 12/31/83. Potential development of claims in moderate to high mineral value areas. | Loss of primarily moderate with some high metallic mineral development opportunities. Localized impact to solitude and |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE III: PARTIAL WILDERNESS

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bodie Suitable (Cont.) | Minerals/Energy (Cont.) | Mineral Development (Cont.) | | naturalness where valid mineral development occurs. |
| | Cultural | Same as Alternative II | | |
| Bodie CA-010-100 (Nonsuitable: 8,510 acres) | Wilderness | Manageability | Wilderness values not protected under NWPS. | Degradation of wilderness values due to potential mineral and geothermal development, motorized vehicle use, access to and utilization of non-public land, fuelwood harvesting and permitted grazing activities. |
| | Recreation | Same as Alternative I | | |
| | Vegetation | Improvements | Same as Alternative I | |
| | | Livestock Grazing | Motorized access for mineral block placement, maintenance and/or construction of fences, proposed pipelines, and spring developments permitted. | Slight localized degradation of naturalness and solitude. |
| | | Fuelwood Harvesting/Non-Commercial Pinyon Nut Harvesting | Same as Alternative I | |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE III: PARTIAL WILDERNESS

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bodie Nonsuitable (Cont.) | RTE/Sensitive Species | General | Not protected under NWPS. | Possible degradation of plant and habitat due to motorized vehicle use, mineral and geothermal development, and permitted grazing activities. Continued protection under Endangered Species Act and Bureau Policy. |
| | Minerals/Energy | Same as Alternative I | | |
| Masonic Mountains CA-010-102 (Nonsuitable: 6,600 acres) | Same as Alternative I | | | |
| Slinkard CA-010-105/NV-030-531 (Nonsuitable: 6,350 acres) | Same as Alternative I | | | |

TABLE 4-1
ALTERNATIVE IV: NO WILDERNESS

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Sacatar Meadows CA-010-027 (Nonsuitable: 18,175 acres) | Same as Alternative I under nonsuitable | | | |
| Cerro Gordo CA-010-055 (Nonsuitable: 16,102 acres) | Same as Alternative I under nonsuitable | | | |
| Southern Inyo CA-010-056 (Nonsuitable: 36,600 acres) | Same as Alternative I under nonsuitable except for: Wildlife | Improvements | Motorized access for construction and maintenance of horizontal wells allowed. | Slight degradation of naturalness. Benefits wildlife. |
| Independence Creek CA-010-057 (Nonsuitable: 6,250 acres) | Same as Alternative I | | | |
| Crater Mountain CA-010-062 (Nonsuitable: 7,260 acres) | Same as Alternative I | | | |
| Symmes Creek CA-010-064 (Nonsuitable: 8,130 acres) | Same as Alternative I | | | |
| Chidago Canyon CA-010-079 (Nonsuitable: 20,246 acres) | Same as Alternative I | | | |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE IV: NO WILDERNESS

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Fish Slough CA-010-080 (Nonsuitable: 14,450 acres) | Same as Alternative I | | | |
| Volcanic Tableland CA-010-081 (Nonsuitable: 11,840 acres) | Same as Alternative I | | | |
| Casa Diablo CA-010-082 (Nonsuitable: 9,167 acres) | Same as Alternative I | | | |
| Excelsior CA-010-088 (Nonsuitable: 9,100 acres) | Same as Alternative I | | | |
| Granite Mountains CA-010-090 (Nonsuitable: 56,741 acres) | Same as Alternative I | | | |
| Walford Springs CA-010-092 (Nonsuitable: 13,200 acres) | Same as Alternative I | | | |
| Mormon Meadows CA-010-094 (Nonsuitable: 7,280 acres) | Same as Alternative I | | | |

TABLE 4-1 (cont.)
ALTERNATIVE IV: NO WILDERNESS

| WSA | Resource | Activity | Management Action | Impacts & Significance |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mt. Biedeman<br>CA-010-095<br>(Nonsuitable:<br>12,420 acres) | Same as Alternative I | | | |
| Bodie Mountains<br>CA-010-099<br>(Nonsuitable:<br>23,360 acres) | Same as Alternative I | | | |
| Bodie<br>CA-010-100<br>(Nonsuitable:<br>15,455 acres) | Same as Alternative I | | | |
| Masonic Mountains<br>CA-010-102<br>(Nonsuitable:<br>6,600 acres) | Same as Alternative I | | | |
| Slinkard<br>CA-010-105/NV-030-531<br>(Nonsuitable:<br>6,350 acres) | Same as Alternative I | | | |

MITIGATION

Mitigating measures which apply to adverse impacts identified for one or more of the alternatives are described below.

1. Impacts from mining claims or mineral leases with valid existing rights will be mitigated, to the extent practical or feasible, to prevent unnecessary or undue degradation of resources.

2. Vehicle use in designated wilderness areas will be allowed for the maintenance of range and wildlife improvements when no other means are practical, and for the construction of such improvements when wilderness values are benefitted. Whenever practical, vehicle use will coincide with low wilderness use periods, and projects will be constructed so as to blend with their environment. Impacts from construction activities will be rehabilitated to return the area surrounding the project to its natural condition.

3. Protection of soils, watershed, visual resources, air quality, endangered species, cultural resources, and other resources is guided by special legislation and BLM policy and regulations. All specific projects proposed on public lands in the EIS area will be assessed, on a case-by-case basis, for environmental impacts as they are proposed. Significant impacts identified in these environmental assessments will be mitigated to the extent feasible and practical, to prevent unnecessary and undue degradation of resources.

4. General mitigation measures identified in the Benton-Owens Valley, Bodie-Coleville, South Sierra Foothills, and Reno Grazing Environmental Impact Statements will be utilized.

UNAVOIDABLE ADVERSE IMPACTS

Alternative I - Proposed Action

In the areas recommended as suitable for wilderness designation (53,089 acres), mining activities on claims or mineral leases with valid existing rights would reduce the quality level of the wilderness values, affecting both naturalness and opportunities for solitude as well as other supplemental wilderness values. Grazing operations may also reduce the quality of the visitor's wilderness experience. Closure to ORV use in all of the suitable areas will have the indirect impact of forcing prospectors, pinyon nut harvesters, rockhounders and hunters to walk additional distances. Constraints on intensive grazing management techniques would result in maximum stocking rates not being realized. Prohibited interpretive facility development would result in some foregone interpretive opportunities and may displace such facilities to locations outside the suitable area.

The major adverse impact in nonsuitable areas (245,637 acres) would be the potential loss of opportunity for inclusion of these areas into the National Wilderness Preservation System. The areas may receive developments that

adversely affect existing wilderness resources to the point that the areas would no longer qualify for wilderness designation. Some of the multiple resource benefits of wilderness designation (identified in Table 3-1) may also be adversely affected in the nonsuitable areas.

Alternative II -- All Wilderness

The areas will have the same unavoidable adverse impacts as those identified in Alternative I for suitable areas, with the addition of adverse impacts on wilderness quality levels resulting from potential development of valid existing rights such as existing power site reserves, rights-of-way, and aqueduct construction applications. Adverse impacts would result from some uncontrollable ORV use in the Chidago Canyon WSA. Research and evaluation of cultural resources in Crater Mountain, Chidago Canyon, and Fish Slough would be less convenient, resulting in potential foregone research projects.

Alternative III -- Partial Wilderness

The unavoidable adverse impacts are the same as those identified for Alternative I except that 158,219 acres are recommended suitable and 140,507 acres are recommended nonsuitable for wilderness designation. The ORV use impacts on the suitable portions of Chidago Canyon, mentioned in Alternative II above may also occur under this alternative as well as the potential impacts on cultural resources research and evaluation in Crater Mountain, Chidago Canyon and Fish Slough. In addition, vegetative manipulations to increase cattle use in the Sacatar Meadows and Granite Mountains suitable areas would be prohibited, resulting in maximum stocking rates not being realized.

Alternative IV -- No Wilderness

The unavoidable adverse impacts would be the same as those described in Alternative I for the nonsuitable areas.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SHORT-TERM USE AND LONG-TERM PRODUCTIVITY

Failure to designate all or portions of WSAs as wilderness areas will allow potential incremental degradation of the area's wilderness characteristics to occur. Opening the area in the short-term to multiple uses may, in the long-term, preclude the WSA from further consideration as wilderness.

Conversely, designation of a WSA as a wilderness area will provide long-term protection of its wilderness characteristics. However, short-term uses, such as new mining operations after December 31, 1983, will be prohibited.

The relationship between short term uses of man's environment and the maintenance and enhancement of long-term productivity is further detailed in Table 4-2.

IRREVERSIBLE AND IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENTS OF RESOURCES

Finding a WSA nonsuitable for wilderness designation would open the lands for use under the public land laws. The wilderness resource might be irretrievably lost if wilderness characteristics are impaired. Additionally,

actions permitted under the public land laws (e.g., mining, rights-of-way, recreation and public purpose, etc.) might result in the irretrievable commitment of mineral, vegetative, botanical, cultural, and/or visual resources.

The designation of land as wilderness constitutes a long-term commitment of resources and land. Congress, however, can change the classification. Thus wilderness designation can be considered neither an irreversible nor an irretrievable commitment of resources.

Irreversible and irretrievable commitments of resources are further detailed in Table 4-2.

TABLE 4-2

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SHORT-TERM USES OF MAN'S ENVIRONMENT AND THE MAINTENANCE AND ENHANCEMENT OF LONG-TERM PRODUCTIVITY AND THE IRREVERSIBLE OR IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENTS OF RESOURCES

| ALTERNATIVE CONSIDERATION | SHORT-TERM USE | LONG-TERM PRODUCTIVITY[1] | IRREVERSIBLE AND IRRETRIEVABLE |
|---|---|---|---|
| Proposed Action | Optimum preservation of public lands in their natural condition. Continued mineral production, grazing, and maintenance or enhancement of recreation opportunities, motorized vehicle access, and harvesting of woodland products on nonsuitable lands. | Wilderness values preserved in suitable areas. Reduced motorized recreation opportunities, vegetative manipulation (range), and grazing improvement development, and loss of new (after December 31, 1983) mining claim or lease opportunities in suitable areas. Continued opportunities for the activities above in the nonsuitable areas with some associated loss in wilderness values. | Loss of wilderness values and potential degradation of visual quality on developed lands in nonsuitable areas. Investment of energy. |
| All Wilderness | Maximum preservation of public lands in their natural condition. | Wilderness values would be preserved for future generations. Reduced opportunities for motorized recreation, intensive range improvement, new (after December 31, 1983) mining claim or lease development, harvesting of woodland products, vegetative manipulations (range), cultural resource research and evaluation, and intensive land uses. | Short-term incompatible resource development potential foregone. |
| Partial Wilderness | Preservation of public lands in their natural condition in suitable areas. Continued intensive land uses, harvesting of woodland products, mineral production, grazing, and maintenance or enhancement of motorized vehicle access on nonsuitable lands. | Wilderness values preserved in suitable areas. Reduced motorized recreation, woodland product harvest, cultural resource research and evaluation, intensive range improvement opportunities, vegetative manipulations (range) and loss of new (after December 31, 1983) mining claim or lease opportunities in suitable areas. Continued opportunities for the activities above in the nonsuitable areas with some associated loss in wilderness values. | Same as Proposed Action. |
| No Wilderness (No Action) | Continued mineral production, grazing management, and maintenance or enhancement of recreation opportunities and motorized vehicle access. | Continued or increased motorized recreation, woodland product harvest, cultural resources research and evaluation, intensive range improvements, vegetative manipulation (range) and mineral development opportunities. Loss of wilderness values. | Loss of wilderness values on developed areas. Degradation of visual quality and other resource values. Investment of energy. |

[1] As compared to present situation or trend.

# Chapter 5

# Consultation & Coordination

REVIEW OF THE DRAFT EIS

Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be requested from the following agencies and interest groups as well as the many individuals who have requested to be placed on the Bakersfield District Wilderness Mailing List for this study effort.

FEDERAL

Environmental Protection Agency

U.S. Department of the Interior
- Office of the Assistant Secretary
  - -- Energy and Minerals
- Bureau of Reclamation
- Fish and Wildlife Service
- National Park Service

U.S. Department of Agriculture
- Forest Service

U.S. Senators (California)

U.S. House (affected districts)

CALIFORNIA - STATE AGENCIES

Office of the Governor

State Senators (affected districts)

State Assembly (affected districts)

Office of Planning and Research

State Historic Preservation Office

Caltrans

Resources Agency
- Department of Water Resources
- Department of Forestry
- Native American Heritage Commission
- Department of Fish and Game
- Department of Parks and Recreation
- State Lands Commission
- Energy Resources and Conservation and Development Commission
- Division of Mines and Geology
- Division of Oil and Gas
- Air Resources, Solid Waste Management, and Water Resources Control Boards

COUNTY GOVERNMENTS - BOARDS OF SUPERVISORS AND PLANNING DEPARTMENTS

Alpine
Inyo
Mono
Tulare

OTHER LOCAL AGENCIES

Inyo County Health Department
Los Angeles Department of Water and Power

OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

Alexander Lindsay Jr. Museum
California Off-Road Vehicle Association (C.O.R.V.A.)
California Federation of Mineralogical Societies
California Wilderness Coalition
California Association 4-WD Clubs
California Native Plant Society
California Mining Association
Cholame Township Sportsmen Association
Defenders of Wildlife
Desert Survivors
Fresno-Kings County Cattlemens Association
Hollister Gem & Lapidary Club
Kern County Grange
Kern Plateau Association
Mission Trails Bowhunter Association
Natural History Museum LA County
Needles Gem and Mineral Club
Owens Valley Cultural Center
Sierra Club
South Council of Conservation Clubs
Sportsmens Council of Central California
The Wilderness Society
Tule Gem and Mineral Society
Utah Wilderness Association
White Rock Club

# List of Preparers

## List of Preparers

| Name | Position | Education | Professional Experience |
|---|---|---|---|
| Jerry Magee | EIS Team Leader | A.S. General Science<br>B.S. Environmental Planning and Management | 7 years |
| Linda Armentrout | Outdoor Recreation Planner/Archaeologist | B.S. Geology and Anthropology<br>M.S. Anthropology | 7 years |
| Ronald K. Buder | Geologist | B.S. Mining Geology | 27 years |
| Daniel W. Delaney | Wildlife Management Biologist | B.S. Range and Wildlife Habitat Management | 10 years |
| Maureen Horne | Geologist | B.A. Geology | 2 years |
| Lorena Kihm | Typist | | 4 years |
| Michael W. McGinty | Forester | B.S. Forestry | 10 years |
| Clyde Morris | Realty Specialist | A.S. Park Management<br>B.S. Resource Planning and Interpretation | 9 years |
| Joseph Pollini | Outdoor Recreation Planner | B.A. History<br>M.S. Forestry (Outdoor Recreation Resources Management) | 5 years |
| Larry Primosch | Range Conservationist | B.S. Range Management | 4 years |
| Mark Struble | Outdoor Recreation Planner | B.S. Park Administration | 5 years |
| Rich Teixeira | Geologist | B.S. Geology | 7 years |
| Wendy L. Waiwood | Wildlife Biologist/ Environmental Specialist | B.S. Fisheries and Wildlife | 7 years |

# Glossary

## GLOSSARY

ANIMAL UNIT MONTH (AUM): The amount of forage required to sustain the equivalent of one cow or five sheep for one month.

AREAS OF CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN (ACEC): Areas within the public lands where special management attention is required (when such areas are developed or used or where no development is required) to protect and prevent irreparable damage to important historic, cultural, or scenic values, fish and wildlife resources or other natural systems or processes, or to protect life and safety from natural hazards.

CONTIGUOUS: Lands or legal subdivisions having a common boundary; lands having only a common corner are not contiguous.

ECOTONE: A transition area between two adjacent ecological communities usually exhibiting competition between organisms common to both.

FLPMA: The Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (Public Law 94-579, 90 Stat. 2743,43 USC 1701).

IMPACT: The effect, influence, alteration, or imprint of an activity.

IMPAIR: To diminish in value or excellence.

KNOWN GEOTHERMAL RESOURCE AREA (KGRA): An area in which the geology, nearby discoveries, competitive interests, or other indicia would, in the opinion of the Secretary of the Interior, engender a belief in men who are experienced in the subject matter that the prospects for extraction of geothermal steam or associated geothermal resources are good enough to warrant expenditures of money for that purpose. (From Code of Federal Regulations (Title 43, Part 1000 to 3999, Pg. 436), Office of Federal Register, Washington D.C., 1981)

LIVESTOCK GRAZING OPERATIONS: Those operations under permit where the primary purpose is the grazing of livestock for the production of food and fiber. Includes pack and saddle stock used in conjunction with such operations.

MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN (MFP): The Bureau's basic planning decision document prior to the adoption of a new planning process in 1979, in which the decision document is a Resource Management Plan (RMP).

MFP AMENDMENT: An amendment to a Management Framework Plan is initiated by the need to consider monitoring and evaluation findings, new data, new or revised policy, a change in circumstances, or an applicant's proposed action which may result in a significant change in a portion of the approved plan.

MINERAL ENTRY: The right to enter the Public Lands (under the administration of the BLM) to search for minerals and to claim or lease such minerals under the mining and mineral leasing laws and regulations.

MOTORIZED EQUIPMENT: Any machine activated by nonliving power source except small battery-powered handcarried devices such as flashlights, shavers, Geiger counters, and cameras. Also "Mechanized Equipment".

MOTOR VEHICLE: Any vehicle which is self-propelled or any vehicle which is propelled by electric power obtained from batteries.

MULTIPLE RESOURCE VALUES AND USES: The present and potential uses of the various resources administered through multiple use management on the public lands and any public values associated with such uses.

MULTIPLE USE: "...the management of the public lands and their various resource values so that they are utilized in the comnbination that will best meet the present and future needs of the American people; making the most judicious use of the land for some or all of these resources or related services over areas large enough to provide sufficient latitude for periodic adjustments in use to conform to changing needs and conditions; the use of some lands for less than all of the resources; a combination of balanced and diverse resource uses that take into account the long-term needs of future generations for renewable and nonrenewable resources, including, but not limited to, recreation, range, timber, minerals, watershed, wildlife and fish, and natural scenic, scientific and historical values; and harmonious and coordinated management of the various resources without permanent impairment of the productivity of the land and the quality of the environment with consideration being given to the relative values of the resources and not necessarily to the combination of uses that will give the greatest economic return or the greatest unit output." (From section 103, FLPMA).

NATIONAL COOPERATIVE LAND AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS (NCLWMAs): Established by Public Land Orders in the early 1960's, these lands were withdrawn from disposal under the non-mineral public land laws, in order to protect significant or unique wildlife values. These areas are managed under cooperative agreements between BLM and the California Department of Fish and Game.

NATURALNESS: Refers to an area which "generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable." (From section 2(c), Wilderness Act).

OFF-ROAD VEHICLE (ORV): Any motorized vehicle designed for or capable of cross-country travel on or immediately over land, water, sand, snow, ice, marsh, swampland, or other terrain.

OUTSTANDING: 1. Standing out among others of its kind; conspicuous; prominent; 2. superior to others of its kind; distinguished; excellent.

PLANNING AREA: The area for which resource management plans are prepared and maintained. In most instances, it is the same as the resource area, which is a geographic portion of a BLM district, under supervision of an area manager.

PLANNING CRITERIA: The factors used to guide development of the resource management plan, or revision, to ensure that it is tailored to the issues previously identified and to ensure that unnecessary data collection and analyses are avoided. Planning criteria are developed to guide the collection and use of inventory data and information, the analysis of the management situation, the design and formulation of alternatives, the estimation of the effects of alternatives, the evaluation of alternatives, and the selection of the preferred alternative.

POPULATION CENTER: A Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area (SMSA) which has a population of 100,000 or greater. An SMSA is a county which contains at least one city of 50,000 inhabitants or more plus as many adjacent counties as are metropolitan in character and are socially integrated with that central city or cities.

PRE-FLPMA: Before October 21, 1976, the date of approval of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act.

PRELIMINARY WILDERNESS RECOMMENDATION: Refers to a wilderness recommendation at any stage prior to the time when the Secretary of the Interior reports his recommendation to the President. Until the Secretary acts, the recommendation is "preliminary" because it is subject to change during administrative review.

PRIMITIVE AND UNCONFINED RECREATION: Nonmotorized and nondeveloped types of outdoor recreational activities.

PUBLIC LANDS: For the purpose of the wilderness review program, any lands and interest in lands owned by the United States within the several States and administered by the Secretary of the Interior through the Bureau of Land Management, without regard to how the United States acquired ownership, except:

1. Lands where the United States owns the minerals but the surface is not Federally owned.

2. Lands being held for the benefit of Indians, Aleuts, and Eskimos.

3. Lands tentatively approved for State selection in Alaska.

4. Lands on the Outer Continental Shelf.

5. Oregon and California grant (O & C) lands that are managed for commerical timber production.

RANGELAND IMPROVEMENTS: Any structural or nonstructural improvements which directly affect or support the use of the forage resource by domestic livestock, such as fences, line cabins, water lines, and stock tanks.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN (RMP): The basic decision document of BLM's resource management planning process, used to establish allocation and coordination among uses for the various resources within a Resource Area. An RMP is a "land-use plan" prescribed by Section 202 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act. RMP regulations appear at 43 CFR 1601. (Refer to definition of Management Framework Plan).

SMSA: Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area - See definition under "Population Center."

SOLITUDE: 1. The state of being alone or remote from habitations; isolation. 2. A lonely, unfrequented, or secluded place.

STOCKING RATE: The degree to which a grazing unit is stocked with livestock, usually expressed in AUMs. The stocking rate may be more or less than the carrying capacity of the grazing unit.

SUBSTANTIALLY UNNOTICEABLE: Refers to something that either is so insignificant as to be only a very minor feature of the overall area or is not distinctly recognizable by the average visitor as being manmade or man-caused because of age, weathering or biological change. An example of the first would be a few minor dams or abandoned mine buildings that are widely scattered over a large area, so that they are an inconspicuous part of the scene. Serious intrusions of this kind, or many of them, may preclude inclusion of the land in a wilderness study area. An example of the second would be an old juniper control project that has grown up to a natural appearance, the old fallen trees largely decomposed.

SUITABILITY: As used in the Wilderness Act and in the Federal Land Policy and Management Act, refers to a recommendation by the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Agriculture that certain Federal lands satisfy the definition of wilderness in the Wilderness Act and have been found appropriate for designation as wilderness on the basis of an analysis of the existing and potential uses of the land.

WATERSHED: The area drained by a principal river or stream system.

WILDERNESS: The definition contained in section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 891).

WILDERNESS AREA: An area formally designated by Act of Congress as part of the National Wilderness Preservation System.

WILDERNESS CHARACTERISTICS: The definition contained in section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act of 1964. (78 Stat. 891)

WILDERNESS INVENTORY: An evaluation of the public lands in the form of a written description and map showing those lands that meet the wilderness criteria as established under section 603(a) of FLPMA and section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act, which will be referred to as Wilderness Study Areas (WSA).

WILDERNESS MANAGEABILITY: The capability of an area to be effectively managed to preserve its wilderness character.

WILDERNESS MANAGEMENT: The management of human use and influence on lands which have been designated by Act of Congress as wilderness areas.

WILDERNESS PROGRAM: Term used to describe all wilderness activities of the Bureau of Land Management including identification, management, and administrative functions.

WILDERNESS RECOMMENDATIONS: A recommendation by the Bureau of Land Management, the Secretary of the Interior, or the President, with respect to an area's suitability or nonsuitability for preservation as wilderness.

WILDERNESS REPORTING: The process of preparing the reports containing wilderness recommendations on wilderness study areas and transmitting those reports to the Secretary of the Interior, the President, and Congress.

WILDERNESS REVIEW: The term used to cover the entire wilderness inventory, study, and reporting phases of the wilderness program of the Bureau of Land Management.

WILDERNESS STUDY: The process which specifies how each wilderness study area must be studied through the BLM resource management planning system, analyzing all resources, values and uses within the WSA to determine whether the area will be recommended as suitable or nonsuitable for wilderness designation.

WILDERNESS STUDY AREA (WSA): A roadless area or island that has been inventoried and found to have wilderness characteristics as described in section 603 of FLPMA and section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 891).

WILDLIFE IMPROVEMENTS: Any structural or nonstructural improvements which directly affect or support the use of water, food, or shelter by wildlife, such as guzzlers, water lines, or fences.

# Literature Cited

## Literature Cited


Bailey, R.G. 1976. Ecoregions of the United States. U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, U.S. Forest Service.

California, State of. 1978. Bodie State Historic Park Resource Management Plan. The Resources Agency, Department of Parks and Recreation, Sacramento, CA.

Garfinkel, Alan P., R.A. Schiffman, K.R. McGuire. 1980. Archaeological Investigations in the Southern Sierra Nevada: the Lamont Meadow and Morris Peak Segments of the Pacific Crest Trail. U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management.

Great Basin GEM (Geology-Energy-Minerals) Joint Venture. 1983. Draft G-E-M- Resource Area Technical Reports. U.S. Department of Interior, BLM contract (YA-554-RFP2-1054).

Kuchler, A.W. 1966. Potential Natural Vegetation. University of Kansas.

Remsen, J.V. Jr. 1978. Bird Species of Special Concern in California. State of California, Resources Agency, Department of Fish and Game, Sacramento, CA.

U.S. Congress..Grazing in National Forest Wilderness Areas. House of Representatives Report Number 96-1126.

U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Forest Service. 1982. Analysis of the Management Situation (AMS). Toiyabe National Forest.

---. 1978 Ecosystems of the United States. RARE II Map B.

U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management. Benton-Owens Valley Grazing Environmental Impact Statement. Bishop, CA, Resource Area Office.

---. 1982. Benton-Owens Valley Management Framework Plan. Bishop, CA, Resource Area Office.

---. 1979. Benton-Owens Valley Unit Resource Analysis. Bishop, CA, Resource Area Office.

---. 1982. Bodie-Coleville Grazing Environmental Impact Statement. Bishop, CA, Resource Area Office.

---. 1983. Bodie-Coleville Management Framework Plan. Bishop, CA, Resource Area Office.

---. 1981. Bodie-Coleville Unit Resource Analysis. Bishop, CA, Resource Area Office.

---. 1980. California Desert Conservation Area Plan. Riverside, CA, California Desert Plan Staff.

---. 1983. BLM Policy on Conserving Rare, Threatened, Endangered, and Sensitive Plants on Public Lands in California. California State Office Instruction Memorandum No. CA-83-49.

---. 1979. Final Intensive Inventory, Public Lands Administered by BLM outside the California Desert Conservation Area. BLM, Sacramento, CA, State Office.

---.. Final Timber Management E.A. for Sustained Yield Unit #15 (SYU 15).

---..Grazing Allotment and Oil and Gas Records. BLM, Bakersfield, CA, District and Resource Area Offices.

---. 1979. Interim Management Policy and Guidelines for Lands under Wilderness Review.

---. 1982. South Sierra Foothills Analysis of the Management Situation (AMS). Bakersfield, CA, Caliente Resource Area.

---. 1982. South Sierra Foothills Pre-Planning Analysis (PPA). Bakersfield, CA, Caliente Resource Area.

---. 1982. South Sierra Foothills Resource Inventories. Bakersfield, CA, Caliente Resource Area.

---.. T and R Files. BLM, Bakersfield, CA, District and Resource Area Offices.

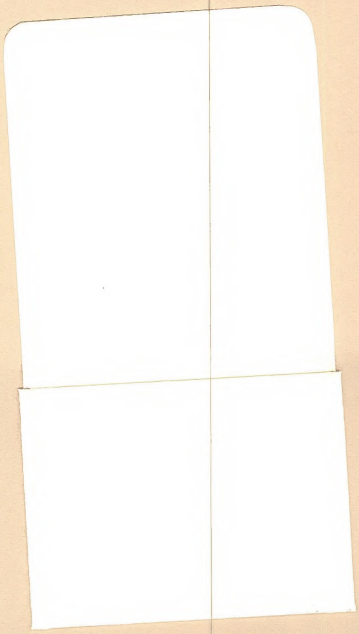
---. 1978. Wilderness Inventory Handbook.

---. 1981. Wilderness Management Policy.

---.. Wilderness Study Area Permanent Documentation Files (PDF). BLM, Bakersfield, CA, District Office.

---. 1982. Wilderness Study Policy; Policies, Criteria and Guidelines for Conducting Wilderness Studies on Public Lands. 47 FR 5098.

U.S. Office of Management and Budget. 1980. Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas, Revised Edition.

Voegelin, Erminie. 1938. Tubatulabal Ethnography. Anthropological Records, Vol. 2, No. 1. University of California Press, Berkeley, CA.

Bureau of Land Management
Library
Bldg. 50, Denver Federal Center
Denver, CO 80225